SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The principles of smart growth inherently support open space conservation and decreased automobile dependency. However, individual projects must also be designed for sustainability.

GOALS OF SUSTAINABLE DESIGN GUIDELINES:
1. Design that responds to the region's climatic and environmental conditions.
2. Natural temperature control.
4. Promotion of sustainable building practices.

KEY COMPONENTS:
- Climate- and Environmentally-Oriented Site Design
- Climate-Appropriate Landscaping
- Green Stormwater Retention and Infiltration
- Environmentally-Appropriate Building Materials
- Water and Energy Conservation

MATERIALS CONSERVATION
Buildings can be designed to incorporate renewable, recycled and locally produced materials to minimize the environmental impact of new construction.

REPRESENTATIVE GUIDELINES:
- Use high-quality construction materials to reduce maintenance and replacement costs.
- Build with recycled construction materials such as fiberglass insulation, recycled carpet and recycled glass whenever possible.
- Use locally manufactured building products to reduce transportation impacts and costs.

GREEN STORMWATER SOLUTIONS
Manicured areas and permeable paving can help to retain runoff after a storm. They can also allow runoff to infiltrate into the soil rather than flowing into storm drains.

REPRESENTATIVE GUIDELINES:
- Use permeable paving materials for streets, sidewalks, parking lots and driveways.
- Direct stormwater from roof downspouts to vegetated swales or retention areas, rather than storm drains.
- Incorporate green roofs into the design of new buildings.

SUN AND WIND
A well-designed project can take advantage of the San Diego region's sunny climate.

REPRESENTATIVE GUIDELINES:
- Incorporate solar panels, other photovoltaic elements and wind turbines into sites where practical.
- Orient buildings so the sun can provide natural heating and cooling, and maximize energy efficiency.
- Plant shade trees where they can provide natural shading and cooling for buildings during the summer.