

## City of Oakland Sustainability Overview:

Oakland, as one of the country's top ten green cities, has embarked on a series of impressive sustainability programs. The triple bottom line is our definition of sustainability. Concerns about social equity, nature, and the economy are the three parts of our holistic approach.

How sustainable is Oakland? Are the current programs enough to achieve an economically vibrant, just, and ecologically sustainable city? Not entirely, but they do represent an impressive start. Oakland is on the move.

For example, the goal of the smart growth Ten-K initiative, set in my first term in 1999, was to get 10,000 new residents in downtown Oakland to foster a spirit of elegant density. We've worked hard to mobilize the resources of city government to attract people to live within the downtown area. The objectives include lively streets, increased local shopping and new places for people to meet and share the excitement of urban living. With the latest round of residential projects, we will soon surpass that goal. We are building a vibrant community with more employees living in the neighborhood in which they work.

The City Center is abuzz with shops and outdoor cafes -- people living life. Tugboats push cargo ships into their slips at the Port of Oakland. Renovated buildings in Old Oakland are functional antiques amidst new and ever greener construction. The downtown boom is spawning new restaurants and weekly farmers markets add organic local zest to the streets while putting some of the cars in their place.

Obstructing dams, culverts, and roadways along the Lake Merritt Channel are being razed to reestablish the original tidal flow, make room for boat passage, public open space and healthy plant and bird habitats right near the urban core. Oakland is one of the most reinvigorated traditional downtowns in California if not the country. While there is still much to be done, we invite you to assess Oakland's current achievements and progress towards a more sustainable future.

**- Mayor Jerry Brown**

*November 16, 2005 version. Prepared by Randy Hayes, Director of Sustainability  
Mayor Jerry Brown's office, City of Oakland.*

Sustainability Organization & Key Documents: The Mayor's office has a Sustainability Program (initiated 11/03) staffed by a Director of Sustainability position and one senior staff to help coordinate City activities. Public Works Agency has an Environmental Services Manager with a number of programs under that position. Community Economic Development Agency is governed by a 1998 policy stating that sustainable development is the overarching principle guiding Oakland's entire economic development program.

- Sustainability White Paper (44 pages) for City of Oakland 1998: *Building the Sustainable Economy: An Opportunity for Oakland*. An update is underway and due 11/05
- Sustainability Inventory (100 pages) was completed in 2003
- Sustainability Plan at Port of Oakland is published annually. This covers both the maritime port and the Oakland airport.
- Sustainability Indicators complete for West Oakland
- Sustainability Annual Reports since 1999 are submitted to the City Council and are available to the general public from the City Clerk's office
- Sustainable Business Plan was updated in March of 2005 and is currently under peer review.
- The Oakland General Plan, mandated by the state, is an overall blueprint of the city's future.

Collaborative Partnerships:

- The Oakland Energy Partnership has morphed into the East Bay Energy Partnership with five distinct programs to serve the community (see handout and flier)
- MOU (2004) with the Department of Energy's Rebuild America/Renewable Energy division, California Energy Commission (CEC), and City of Oakland for Oakland's energy planning. Lawrence Berkeley Lab

participates via an arrangement with the CEC.

- Contract (2005) with Navigant Consulting, State of California CA LEEP, and City of Oakland for a 10 year energy efficiency plan
- Contract (2005) with Navigant Consulting to assess the Community Choice Aggregation opportunity to increase renewable electricity to 50% by 2017 while reducing electricity rates for consumers.
- Oakland is on the host committee and steering committee for UN World Environment Day June 5, 2005 and helped draft the 21 actions of the Urban Environmental Accords
- AC Transit (regional bus company) and the City of Oakland are collaborating on Oakland's first hydrogen fueling station. It will have a Hydrogen Learning Center on the same property for regular use by classes and related community groups. It is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2005.
- The City of Oakland's Sustainability Program is collaborating with San Francisco's Department on the Environment on a pilot project to test tide power in the Bay as well as wave power off the coast.
- The City of Oakland has joined with Friends of the Earth, Inc.; Greenpeace, Inc.; City of Boulder, CO; City of Arcata, CA; and Santa Monica, CA to bring suit against two federal government agencies regarding climate change impacts to our respective cities and organizations.
- Oakland participates in the Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Communities covering nine counties and about 100 cities.
- In February 2005 Oakland partnered with BALLE (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies) to foster local sustainable economic activities. The BALLE national coordinator is an Oakland resident and business person.
- On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Mayor Jerry Brown was an original signer at the United Nations' World Environment Day ceremony inaugurating the Urban Environmental Accords. These Accords spell out 21 bold actions that cities can take to address the planet's needs. [www.wed2005.org](http://www.wed2005.org)
- In 2005 Oakland helped AC Transit raise \$750,000 for the development and installation of a solar-powered hydrogen electrolyzer which should get \$165,000 match from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. This station will be located at AC Transit's Emeryville Division and will produce between 20 and 24 kg of hydrogen per day. It will be operational in early 2007.
- StopWaste.org (formerly Alameda County Waste Management Authority) works with Oakland to reduce waste.

#### Energy & Green House Gasses:

- Note: Virtually every section or initiative in this overview relates to the city's energy goals.
- Renewable energy projects and programs: Five Megawatts of Solar planned for 2005. As stated above, Oakland's sustainability program is collaborating with San Francisco's Department on the Environment on a pilot project to test tide power in the bay as well as wave power off the coast.
- Solar: Oakland is in Alameda County, which has more solar power than any other county in the country (2005).
- City of Oakland is home to California's largest corporate solar electric system. FedEx at Oakland Airport installed 5,700 photovoltaic modules on 81,000 square feet of roof—almost 1 megawatt of electricity—enough pollution free solar electricity to power 900 homes. This system will provide 80% of FedEx's peak electricity needs. Over the 30 year life span of the system the following pollution will be avoided: 11,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>; 17,000 pounds of smog causing nitrogen oxide; 15,000 pounds of acid rain causing sulfur dioxide.
- Energy efficiency projects and programs: Numerous projects are planned for 2005. A ten year detailed energy efficiency plan is due in late 2005. . The partnership with Navigant Consulting through their Leadership in Energy Efficiency Program (CA LEEP) is helping complete this analysis.
- Savings by Design: Oakland is the first of six cities in California chosen by PG&E to launch "Savings by Design"--a new program that provides free energy efficiency design assistance and cash incentives of up to \$150,000 to new commercial construction projects that meet energy efficiency standards.
- Oakland endorsed the Kyoto Protocol (Climate Change Convention) in 1998.
- Oakland set a greenhouse gas baseline for 1990 emissions and set a policy to achieve a 15% reduction below that level by 2010.
- The draft Green House Gas Emission Reduction Plan was written in 2000. The baseline is being reviewed and a progress report on Oakland emissions is expected 10/05. The partnership with Navigant Consulting through their Leadership in Energy Efficiency Program (CA LEEP) is helping complete this analysis as well.
- In 2005, Oakland City Council voted to be the second city in the US to accept mandatory GHG reductions through a program at the Chicago Climate Exchange.
- Oakland completed a feasibility study in early 2005 on achieving 50% renewable electricity citywide by 2017. We are now commissioning a CCA Implementation Plan and will move to full determination in early 2006. A study on getting to 100% renewable electricity by 2030 is in discussion.

### Food & Agriculture:

- There are six Farmers Markets adding the vibrancy of an outdoor experience to neighborhoods and a connection to fresh food and organic farmers.
- There are seven Community Gardens. On weekends, there are horticultural workshops and flower shows for every gardening interest.
- The People's Grocery serves low income neighborhoods with fresh and often organic vegetables.
- An Oakland Food Policy Council was started in March, 2005. People's Grocery is the Chair for 2005.
- The City and community groups have started an Oakland Food Council looking at a plan to maximize organic, non-GMO food production within the City of Oakland. The initial goal is to develop a plan to produce up to 30% of the city's food from within the city or a 100 mile radius.

### Green Building:

- The Green Building Resource Center, established in 2000, is adjacent to the City's permit application desk. It provides information on green building strategies and materials and serves as a clearinghouse for guidelines, case studies, and technical resources. The City of Oakland Public Works Agency, in partnership with the Pacific Energy Center, hosts green building classes
- Green Building Ordinance: A civic green building ordinance requiring LEED silver for new buildings and major retrofits passed in April, 2005. The Civic Green Building ordinance includes incentives for commercial builders. If they achieve a LEED silver rating or higher they may get fast-tracked through the permit process (important to developers) and some or all permit fees may be rebated.
- Note: most new buildings expected to be built in Oakland over the next 3-7 years will be multi-family housing, so incentives will apply to these residential markets.
- In August of 2005 "Mayor Jerry Brown's Green Development Award" was initiated. It went to Green City Lofts, a 62 unit condominium urban village and smart growth project. This site, former brownfield, is now a plus for the community.

### Green Business Program & Incubation:

- The City offers inspections and auditing services and financial support to the Alameda County Green Business Program. Work with the Alameda County Green Business Program to promote Green Business certification in Oakland. As of early 2005 about 25 Oakland businesses are certified.
- Oakland resident James Nixon, author of the seminal 1998 white paper on sustainability in Oakland, has an incubation or business accelerator service and office space with some focus on aspiring green businesses.
- The Communications Technology Cluster (CTC) graduated 15 companies and created over 700 jobs in downtown Oakland. Founded in 1996, CTC is a public-private partnership between Sustainable Systems, Inc, the Oakland Business Development Corporation, and the City of Oakland.
- The Oakland Small Business Growth Center is part of the city philosophy to promote the local economy as part of the sustainability program.
- An eco-industrial park has been proposed for the old Oakland Army Base, but so far has been held up in land swap and jurisdictional problems.

### Green School Program:

- Oakland's award winning Chabot Space & Science Center offers a broad selection of earth science and environmental workshops and classes through the school system. This includes a new hydrogen program that will be coordinated with the Hydrogen Learning Center in another part of Oakland.
- More specifically, Chabot offers 46 classes for school groups in environmental education serving about 35,000 students annually and 26 half-day summer camps serving about 350 young people. Campers explore sustainability themes including space and earth science, astronomy, and technology. Their professional development activities serve about 2,000 teachers.
- In 2004, Chabot's solar photovoltaic power system produced over 35 megaWatt hours of solar energy, This amount of clean solar power equates to reductions in emissions of gasses harmful to the environment that would normally have been produced by conventional power plants. The equivalent reductions include 10,244 kilograms of carbon dioxide, 2.75 kilograms of sulfur oxides, and 9.06 kilograms of nitrogen oxides.
- In early 2005, KTOP, Oakland's TV station, completed a ten part Sustainable Oakland TV series covering such issues as clean water, litter, healthy buildings, air quality, and hazardous waste reduction. It is for classroom use and for distribution on cable in northern California. It will be translated into Chinese and distributed on specialty cable networks.
- HyRoad Learning Center: In partnership with Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley, Schatz Energy Research Center at Humboldt State University, Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland, and the City of Oakland, AC Transit will build and operate the HyRoad Learning Center as part of its Oakland hydrogen

station (see Transportation & Green Fleet section). The HyRoad Learning Center will engage school children and policy-makers in an interactive exploration of emerging transportation. In all of the Learning Center's exhibits and outreach programs, we will take a "whole systems" approach. The Learning Center will present the complexity of our energy and transportation systems, point to possible solutions, then invite visitors to embark on the road to a sustainable future.

- The Self-Reliant House and Environmental Education Center is at Merritt College in Oakland. One can visit various buildings to see examples of energy efficiency, green building, and waste recycling in integrated systems. Urban ecology courses are available at Merritt College.

Lobbying at Other Levels: Cities are embedded in additional political jurisdictions where decisions can and do effect a city's efforts to achieve deep sustainability. Cities need to voice their concerns at the county, state, national, and even international level from time to time. Cities banding together can share resources and add power to any individual voice. To that end, at the end of 2005 Oakland is inviting five local cities to draft a joint lobbying agenda. Already, Oakland has joined with the cities of Arcata, Santa Monica, and Boulder to sue two federal government agencies over activities that will exacerbate climate change and harm cities.

Parks, Water, Creeks, & Community Engagement: See Public Works web site for details at <http://www.oaklandpw.com/> or <http://www.oaklandparks.org/>

- The City of Oakland has 100 parks, 59 outdoor courts, 53 athletic fields, & 5 community pools.
- A Creek Protection, Storm Water Management and Discharge Control Ordinance was passed in 1993 and amended in 1997 to include a Creek Protection Permit for all development on creekside properties in Oakland. The City's Watershed Improvement Program has implemented numerous Creek Restoration Projects and directs the Clean Creeks Campaign, a public/community outreach program that includes community-based and citywide creek cleanups, the Adopt-a-Creek program, school presentations, support for school teachers, support for Creek to Bay Day and more.
- In 2002, Oakland voters overwhelmingly passed the \$198 million bond measure titled Measure DD, the Oakland Trust for Clean Water and Safe Parks. Over \$70 million in DD funding is dedicated to projects that will remove tidal water flow constrictions along the Lake Merritt Channel, improve water quality, provide habitat, and convert the south side of Lake Merritt and the Channel into accessible public open space. This will fund facilities and trails around Lake Merritt, waterfront trail and parks acquisitions and construction at the Estuary Waterfront, youth and public recreational facilities, as well as creeks and waterways restoration.
- The Measure DD Community Coalition was formed to establish an ongoing dialogue between the City of Oakland and interested members of the community on how this historic bond measure will be implemented. The group meets monthly and is open to anyone interested in finding out more about the Measure DD Bond implementation. To see a list of current participating organizations go to [http://www.oaklandparks.org/measure\\_dd\\_orgs.htm](http://www.oaklandparks.org/measure_dd_orgs.htm)
- Water in Oakland is served by East Bay Municipal Utility District.

Reuse/Recycling/Waste/Toxics:

- The City has achieved a ~57% Waste Diversion Rate (9/05) with a policy to achieve 75% by 2010. There is a recycling hotline with a directory of companies that provide services for businesses.
- 1990 is the baseline year
- 1990 diversion rate: 11%
- 2002 diversion rate: 50% (official)
- 2003 diversion rate: 53% (reported but unofficial)
- 2010 diversion goal: 75% (adopted in 2003)
- The Construction and Demolition Ordinance (2002) mandates 50% diversion, but is being reviewed (2005) to look at requiring 60% or more.
- The City has a Recycled Content procurement and Source Reduction Policy for some City purchases. An Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy, building on this existing policy, is being developed for implementation.
- An ordinance with Recycling Space Allocation Requirements was passed in 1995
- The Oakland/Berkeley Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) is a geographic area designated by the California Integrated Waste Management Board to foster end-use markets for recyclable materials and generate green collar jobs. Companies in the RMDZ are eligible for a number of benefits.
- An Integrated Pest Management Resolution was passed in 1997
- A Dioxin Task Force was set up in 1999 and a city plan to reduce dioxin pollution was established.
- The Depot for Creative Re-Use, located on San Pablo Avenue is one example of a business that helps reduce waste through reuse.

### Smart Growth, Brownfield, Transit Villages, & Urban Infill:

- Mayor's 10K Initiative to revitalize downtown Oakland and counter urban sprawl, started in 1999, is to get enough units built downtown. To house 10,000 people. Oakland will surpass this goal (over 7000 permits have been issued at 1.5 person/unit = about 12,000 people).
- The Oakland Redevelopment Agency operates in ten areas and favors transit friendly mixed use. Brownfield revitalization is a top priority with a Cal USE Environmental Site Assessment Loan Program,
- Fostering transit oriented, mixed-use development is at the heart of Oakland's smart growth principles. Progress was made on five transit village development plans from 2000-2005: Uptown at 19<sup>th</sup> Street BART, Fruitvale Transit village, MacArthur BART, Coliseum BART, and West Oakland Transit Village. Contact: Business Development Office, Redevelopment Division in CEDA 510/238-3627 [www.business2oakland.com](http://www.business2oakland.com). As a catalyst for renewal in a low-income inner-city community, the Fruitvale Village is a model.
- Preservation Park is part of the effort to preserve Old Town Oakland and support community groups.
- Oakland has a comprehensive brownfields cleanup program ([www.oaklandpw.com/ulrprogram](http://www.oaklandpw.com/ulrprogram)) that strongly supports the use of sound science and innovative institutional controls to assess, clean up and prepare contaminated properties for reuse.
- The City manages over \$2 million in State and federal brownfields grants and loans that support brownfields redevelopment projects by local developers and non-profits.
- In 2004, the City was awarded the prestigious Phoenix Award for its work to clean up and redevelop a brownfield into Habitat for Humanity housing for four low-income families.

### Sustainability & Social Equity:

- Asthma in Oakland White Paper was produced in 2002 and led to a number of programs to reduce air pollution, particularly diesel particulate at the Port of Oakland
- Oakland Living Wage Ordinance was passed in 1998
- City of Oakland Local Employment Program: All Public Works Agency contracts must comply.
- City of Oakland Apprenticeship Workforce Partnership System: For contracts  $\geq$  \$15,000
- City of Oakland Local and Small Business Enterprise Program: For Professional Service contracts  $\geq$  \$15,000, or construction contracts  $\geq$  \$50,000.
- Equal Benefits Ordinance: For contracts  $\geq$  \$25,000.
- Local Construction Employment Referral Program: Oakland residents are referred to jobs on city-funded construction projects.
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program: Minority and women owned businesses must participate in city projects funded by the department of transportation.
- An example of equity issues and energy issues overlapping would be in 2005, the summer youth employment program called California Youth Energy Services. This is a job training for low income youth and free energy efficiency assistance for low-income households. In the summer of 2005 the Mayor's sustainability staff worked with Rising Sun Energy Center to establish a California Youth Energy Services (CYES) site in Fruitvale. This program hired and trained local low income youth to provide free in-home energy audits, education, and energy efficient hardware installation to low income homeowners and renters in East Oakland. Program highlights:
  - Provided 514 Oakland households with energy saving hardware and information, surpassing our goal of 400 homes.
  - Cumulative savings of 117,452 annual kwh.
  - By partnering with the Mayor's Summer Jobs Program, 13 low income Oakland youth were hired and trained in residential energy efficiency, auditing, and installations. The job-readiness training with local energy contractors combine to offer students a streamlined entrance to pursue careers in the energy efficiency field. Each received a letter of reference for future employers.
  - Served over 300 non-English speaking households in Cantonese, Mandarin, and Spanish; *over 55% of our total clients.*
  - Saved Oakland residents approximately \$146,530 in energy dollars; showing a 3:1 return rate on the City's initial investment.
  - CYES students installed the following materials in low income Oakland residences at no cost: 1,832 Compact Fluorescent Lamps, 402 Efficient-flow showerheads, 847 faucet aerators, and 82 clotheslines.
- The community group, GRID Alternatives, helps to get solar onto low income residences in Oakland. [www.gridalternatives.org](http://www.gridalternatives.org)

### Transportation & Green Fleet:

- Fourteen percent of the City's current fleet are alt-fuel vehicles (AFVs). The City's fleet currently includes 154 vehicles that are fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG), and 19 "flex-fuel" vehicles that can utilize either CNG or unleaded gas. An additional 21 vehicles are powered by other alternative fuels (4 electric, 17 propane). Upcoming: One Packer truck and one street sweeper compressed natural gas-powered vehicles are currently on order. This will bring the total number of alternative fueled vehicles in the City's fleet to 194 (14% of total vehicles). The city has about 1,462 vehicles and equipment that if powered by fuel as of April, 2005.
- The City has been awarded over \$1 million in grant funding from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to assist its franchised solid waste hauler, Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC), in replacing 27 diesel engine vehicles with cleaner fuel alternatives.
- Integrated land use and transportation elements are part of the City's General Plan.
- The Bike Master Plan was completed in 1999. An example of our innovation is Pedal Express. They have been providing zero-pollution delivery solutions for people and businesses in the East Bay to North Oakland since 1994.
- Annual "Bike to Work Day" to call attention to the need to bike every day. Contact: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator, City of Oakland, Public Works Agency, Transportation Services Division, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4314, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 238-3983 <http://www.oaklandpw.com/bicycling>
- The Pedestrian Master Plan was completed in 2002.
- A Green Fleet Resolution was passed in 2003. The program is run out of Public Works.
- Oakland has a City CarShare program as well as annual Bike to Work Day and Car Free Day.
- City employees have Commuter Check and Guaranteed Ride Home benefits
- Oakland is served by BART (Bay Area Rapid Transportation) with 43 stations, 8 in Oakland
- AC Transit serves Oakland and the East Bay and is one of the largest public transit agencies in California with over 100 bus lines serving about a quarter million weekday riders. They have one hydrogen fuel cell bus and three more to be delivered before the end of 2005. Additionally they have designed and are building a prototype gasoline electric hybrid bus, also for delivery by the end of 2005. They have been approved by the air quality management district to build up to ten hybrid buses.
- Alternative Fuel Stations:
  - Oakland Airport has a compressed natural gas fueling station
  - Oakland's first Hydrogen fueling station and HyRoad Learning Center (see Green Schools section) is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2005. Note: Oakland helped Emeryville with solar power/hydrogen system (see "Collaborative Partnerships").
  - A second alternative fueling station closer to downtown will have compressed natural gas, hydrogen, and possibly bio-diesel

### Awards & Claims to Fame (Partial list. Some items are repeated from the above text.):

- Oakland was named one of America's "Top Ten Green Cities" (2005) according to two separate programs, [www.thegreenguide.com](http://www.thegreenguide.com) and [www.sustainlane.com](http://www.sustainlane.com)
- Oakland is the eighth largest city in California with a population of about 426,000 and is the only city in the world with a natural saltwater lake in its center.
- Solar: Oakland is in Alameda County, which has more solar power than any other county in the country (2005).
- Oakland has the oldest officially declared wildfowl sanctuary in the United States.
- In the Spring of 2006 the Oakland Coliseum becomes the first major league sporting venue to sell drinks in compostable cups. They also use compostable utensils. A plan to compost 100% of the trash generated at stadium games is the goal.
- In 2005, Oakland City Council voted to be the second city in the US to accept mandatory GHG reductions through a program at the Chicago Climate Exchange.
- On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Mayor Jerry Brown was an original signer at the United Nations' World Environment Day ceremony inaugurating the Urban Environmental Accords. These Accords spell out 21 bold actions that cities can take to address the planet's needs. [www.wed2005.org](http://www.wed2005.org)
- The "Savings by Design" award went to Caesar Chavez School (2005) for conserving energy.
- In 2004, the City was awarded the prestigious Phoenix Award for its work to clean up and redevelop a brownfield into Habitat for Humanity housing for four low-income families.
- In 2002, Oakland was ranked the nation's 8<sup>th</sup> best city for business in the *Forbes* annual survey of the Best Places in America for Business and Careers.
- In 2001 Oakland won a four star (out of 5) International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives award for action to protect climatic systems.
- In 2001 *Money Magazine* ranked Oakland as the 6<sup>th</sup> best US city in which to live. Two Oakland neighborhoods, Rockridge and Montclair, were referenced as "alternatives for people who want big city

lifestyles without big city expenses.”

- Based on US Census data, Oakland is ranked third in the nation in the percentage of women-owned businesses.
- The USA Today Diversity Index ranks Oakland as one of the two most diverse cities in the United States.
- Oakland has won creek restoration, park revitalization, urban land development, and green fleet awards.
- Mayor Brown won the “Leadership in Rebuilding Oakland” award from Neighborhood Reinvestment Training Institute.

Awards Given by Oakland’s Mayor Brown:

- As stated in the Green Building section, the Mayor of Oakland issues an annual “GREEN DEVELOPMENT AWARD.” In August of 2005 Mayor Jerry Brown awarded the City’s first annual award. It went to Green City Lofts, a 62 unit condominium urban village and smart growth project. Green City Lofts makes the City of Oakland home to the greenest condominium development on the west coast, probably in the country. Green City Development Group President Martin Samuels credits Mayor Jerry Brown with the inspiration to build this 62 unit condominium project that set a new standard for green in-fill multifamily development. Green attributes include:
  - 95% recycling and diversion of construction waste
  - Located in urban in-fill with existing infrastructure, adjacent to transit
  - Hydronic energy efficient heating systems—each unit is Energy Star qualified
  - Zero toxicity paints, adhesives, carpets, finishes and furnishings
  - Tree friendly floors such as bamboo, cork and linoleum

## **The Green City Revolution**

There were about three billion people on this small blue-green planet in 1950. Now at 6.5 billion people, half (over 3 billion) live in large cities. As we grow to a ceiling of about 9 billion people, 2/3s will live in big cities. Cities are the place to deliver the solutions. Those solution need to reach all people, even as we work to leave less and less of an ecological footprint with each subsequent generation. Oakland, a wonderfully diverse city with a great climate, can serve as a model for a livable future. This will require continued bold thinking and action on the part of our community leaders, local business leaders, and elected officials. Oakland citizens have made a great start, but there is much more to do – such exciting and historically important work!

***- Randy Hayes, Director of Sustainability  
Mayor Brown’s Office, City of Oakland***