

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-019**

Adopting Sustainability Principles for Multnomah County

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. Multnomah County has a responsibility to future generations to prevent negative impacts to the natural environment, recognizing future generations will inherit the consequences of our decisions.
- b. Environmental quality, economic health, and social well-being are interconnected. Action in one of these areas impacts all other areas.
- c. A healthy environment is integral to meeting Multnomah County's vision of healthy people in healthy communities.
- d. By making thoughtful decisions and taking necessary precautions at the local level, Multnomah County also supports the future of our regional, national and global community.
- e. For sustainability to be successfully integrated into Multnomah County, commitment to action is required at all levels.
- f. Previous action by Multnomah County with the adoption of the Local Action Plan on Global Warming (Resolution 01-052), a Sustainable Procurement Strategy (Resolution 02-058), and the report of the Food Policy Council (Resolution 03-146) demonstrates County commitment to sustainability. Adopting sustainability principles is the next step in building a strong foundation for Multnomah County.
- g. The Sustainable Development Commission, a citizen advisory group to both the City of Portland and Multnomah County, recommends the following guiding principles be adopted to guide Multnomah County government now and in the future:
  - (1) Create a future where communities, commerce and nature thrive together in harmony.
  - (2) Consider long-term impacts of decisions in order to achieve multiple benefits for the economy, environment and community.
  - (3) Ensure healthy communities by celebrating diversity and providing safe neighborhoods, a living wage, and access to education for all ages and socioeconomic sectors.
  - (4) Build community awareness, responsibility, involvement, and education as key elements of successful policies and programs.

- (5) Protect and restore air, water and land to preserve biological diversity and environmental health while providing a natural resource base for future generations.
- (6) Take necessary precautions to prevent toxic pollution and waste through proactive measures.
- (7) Ensure that ecosystem impacts and the costs of protecting the environment do not unfairly burden any one geographic or socioeconomic sector of Multnomah County.
- (8) Use County resources efficiently by recognizing the interconnections among community well being, land use, building, transportation, affordable housing, food systems, and the natural environment and by adopting a holistic long term view of our investments which includes social and environmental costs.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:**

1. To promote a sustainable future that meets today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.
2. To adopt the above sustainability principles, incorporating these principles into countywide training for elected officials and Multnomah County employees.
3. To direct all County employees and officials to take the sustainability principles and related performance measures into consideration as a guide in decision-making.

ADOPTED this 26th day of February, 2004.

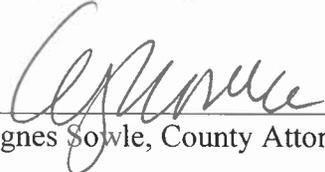


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Diane M. Linn, Chair

REVIEWED:

AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By   
Agnes Sowle, County Attorney