

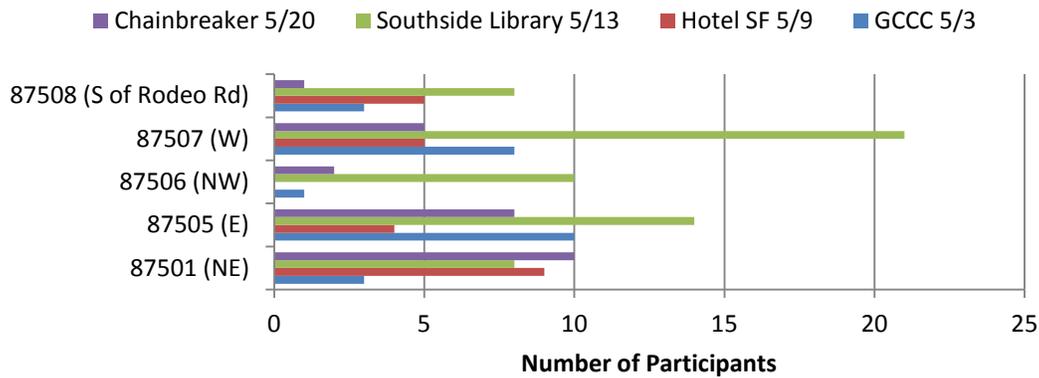
# SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

*Chainbreaker Collective, May 20, 2017*

## 1. Attendance

There were about 36 members from the public and 5 members of the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission.

### Participants by Zip Codes



## 2. Prioritizing goals

Each community member was given 5 dots to place next to the goals on the working group posters that he/she thought were most important. The purpose of the exercise was to motivate people to carefully read the content of the posters and think about their priorities. The percentages of total dots on each poster are presented in the figure below, as they were allocated to the goals on the posters.

It is important to note that due to the constraints of the exercise (e.g., only 5 dots, limited time, narrow slice of the community) the clustering of dots shouldn't be interpreted as reflective of the priorities of the community as a whole.

## Percentage of dots by individual goal



### **3. Community suggestions for additional goals/actions on posters**

Each poster had a space where the community members could add additional goals or actions on post-it notes that he/she thought were important, but missing. Below are the comments that were placed on each poster:

#### ***Social Equity***

- Equal allocation of resources.

#### ***Food Security***

- Pasture land is needed for more production.
- Farmers don't make a living growing food.

#### ***Water***

- The city needs to take better care of the trees in the parks. Too many die during drought.
- Do PSA for property owners to water their trees, especially with lawns being taken out.

#### ***Education***

- Small classes, small schools, respectful school personnel.
- Teach the children and they will teach their parents!
- Include more powerful teaching in public school curriculum.

#### ***Energy***

- A community solar producer of electricity to cut cost of PNM would be productive for the community.
- How does a person fight PNM when they do not protect a customer who has a neighbor stealing electricity?
- Educate businesses to keep doors closed when their AC or heat is on – many buildings are too cold in summer.
- Educate one on one in low income housing about use of AC, heat and water. I've seen heat and AC on in one apartment at the same time.

#### ***Environment***

- Veg Week Santa Fe!
- Follow the advice of Georgetown, Oxford and the United Nations and go vegan!

#### ***Transportation***

- Promote transportation to all generations.
- Increase awareness among drivers about pedestrian safety.
- Connect routes to each other.
- We need better bus systems.

### ***Economic development***

- Create more jobs in renewable energy.

### ***Implementation***

- Why/what are the causes that create disadvantaged people?
- What creates poverty?

## **4. Community feedback from table discussions**

After the welcome remarks were given, it was explained that meeting participants should take a look at the recommendation posters around the meeting area to familiarize themselves with their content. Attendees were asked to think about the recommendations in relation to two specific topics – the *built environment* and *transportation*. They were then invited to join the discussion tables focused on either one of those topics they wanted to, to share and discuss any ideas they had on the topic. Facilitators at the tables helped to lead the discussions and take notes.

### **Built Environment: Table 1**

- There should be more incentives for solar on homes.
- We need more bike lanes.
- There should be a redemption system for recycling of glass.
- Dietary patterns – people should have plant based diets. There needs to be more agriculture.
- Trees in city parks need to be watered more.
- People should be educated about watering their trees, especially during droughts.
- Education is important and there needs to be more of it; the kids teach their parents.
- Businesses need to be educated on how to save energy; many of them keep their doors open in the summer when they are using a lot of air conditioning. Can the city create an ordinance that would require this?
- Renters of homes also need to be educated about use of heating and air conditioning.
- Recycling in apartment buildings needs to be better organized so that there is more of that; there is a culture of waste that needs to change.
- Sustainability needs to be in the school's curriculum.
- The schools and businesses need to be encouraged to have solar systems installed.
- Barriers to more solar need to be removed, like in the historic district.
- There needs to be workforce training for jobs/skills in sustainability.
- What if neighborhoods could appoint someone as an energy efficiency expert and they could educate their neighbors about energy savings?
- People need to educate each other better in different ways, like using nextdoor.com, neighborhood meetings, and neighbor to neighbor communications.

## **Built Environment: Table 2**

### **Affordable Solar**

- Change policies that would enable neighborhood solar microgrids, or municipalize the utility.
- The community should explore ways to raise funding to provide solar.
- How do we get solar to the most vulnerable populations?
- Solar needs to be available to everyone in the community.

### **Policy Changes for Solar**

- Change policies that would enable neighborhood solar microgrids, or municipalize the utility.
- Is there a way to buy solar in bulk in community to drive down the costs?
- Senior centers or homeless shelters could be pilot projects.
- Let's make solar more affordable by providing expanded programs like low-interest loans for solar.

### **Process**

- Have a sustainability person in city hall.
- How do we make sustainability a part of decision making?
- There needs to be way to evaluate sustainability policy decisions.
- The city needs to put resources into a sustainability planner or office of sustainability.
- The city must pay better attention to water and they environment.
- There needs to be better regulation of private water wells.

### **Affordable Housing**

- New housing should not be cheaply built, it needs to be quality.
- There is too much dependence on cars, we need better public transportation.
- We need more affordable housing that has businesses there to cut down on commuting.
- More affordable housing in the city means less travel and car use.
- Can we create new affordable housing developments with a plaza or a central meeting area in them?
- Have more conscious effect on water usage.
- Can we focus on breweries to reduce the amount of water used by them?
- Are fracking companies going to compromise our water supply?
- What resources are available for community gardens?

## **Transportation: Table 1**

- Add routes to more places and add on weekends.
- Biking is easier in Albuquerque; there is a culture of drivers that need better education about bikers.
- The Southwest has a history of cars and driving, that needs to change.

- The last mile from bus stops to home needs to be reduced somehow.
- Jobs need to be closer to where people live.
- It is difficult to get to a grocery store using public transportation because it takes a long time using the bus. How do we improve this?

## **Transportation: Table 2**

- Strategies for increasing affordable housing:
  - Rent control by median income by neighborhood, since incomes in different neighborhoods vary a lot.
  - Dependence of housing vouchers on gas/oil/coal industry, so a reduction in industry monies results in a reduction of number of available vouchers for most marginalized, chronically homeless populations.
  - Expand transportation to support access for populations who are on vouchers (e.g., frequency of service, network of stops).
  - Buy-in to voucher programs by property managers/landowners; felonies and convictions remain major barriers to getting housed.
- Develop coordinated carpooling/ridesharing program.
- Piloting program in a marginalized community (e.g., one apartment complex) in which all transportation needs are met, getting buy-in from stakeholders, expanding to other communities from there.
- Impassibility of sidewalks – only corners get repaired.
- No connecting service between bus lines; need to better publicize existing paratransit, create more paratransit options.
- Barriers to paratransit: need access to PCP/psychiatrist, very little access to psychiatry in SF; the test to qualify is humiliating.
- What about scooters? Not everyone can ride a bike due to age, ability or health condition – can this penetrate into neighborhoods?
- We need shuttles to pick up people all or neighborhoods and deliver to transit stops. (Editor’s note: the city provides such transportation shuttles, and they take people directly to their desired destination.)
- Increasing the number of riders on buses in order to increase the actual number of buses needed is hard; the reverse is more effectively looking at what other cities of similar size are doing.
- Survey marginalized communities for more ideas; these are people who use the system now.
- Increase marketing/outreach for more sustainable solutions (e.g., biodiesel conversion).
- Transit centers that provide shelter from weather/sun, appear safe (well lit, clean, etc.) – currently, it appears that 15% are covered.
- Invite stakeholders to utilize public transportation for one day and reflect on experience.
- Need more youth education and involvement; sustainability programs available to promote those skills, those industries.

- Need clear and informative signage; sometimes it's hard to tell if it's a stop or just a bench.
- Currently, fares cover 30% of operational costs – how hard is it to make it free?
- Pilot this in tourist heavy areas? Tourists don't use public transit – pilot a whole existing route?
- Can employers offer bus passes for free as benefits? This would reduce the stigma of public transportation.
- Can we make it easier to purchase bus passes? Why can't people buy them at the post office, grocery stores, etc.?
- SF Trails app doesn't work well and needs to be improved.
- Get rid of stops, just have routes and pick up and drop off folks along it – would this save time? So then people could get on at any corner, wouldn't have to walk huge distances.
- Transit needs to be more family-friendly, user-friendly in general.
- Can the universities/colleges create programs to support students commuting? Current rideshare/blue bus schedule doesn't work for most people.
- Can businesses offer discounts, etc., for people showing bus passes, riding bikes?