

**Resilience Goals Comments from Jessica Brown In RED.**

**G1. Encourage resilient and sustainable agricultural production.**

P1: Support conservation programs, research, technical assistance, and resources that provide direct **and indirect** financial assistance to farmers to implement best management practices that address impacts of climate change. **My thought process on this change is that tax breaks are an indirect way of assisting farmers financially. Farms that produce crops through sustainable methods could be rewarded with a lower property tax rate.**

**G3. Promote local food economies and local agricultural or farming businesses.**

- 1. Support urban farming, vertical and hydroponic systems. Incentives can include property tax breaks and leasing incentives for underutilized urban land.**

**G4. Improve the safety and reliability of energy infrastructure vulnerable to climate change.**

P1: Work with energy utilities to improve the safety and reliability of infrastructure vulnerable to climate change; Procure and install alternate/back-up power generators and/or emergency generator quick connect hook-ups in County critical facilities as funding becomes available. Install and maintain surge protection on critical electronic equipment.

- 1. Invest in fuel cells or other renewable energy sources for back ups.**

**G6. Support innovative green technology and renewables in the energy sector.**

- 1. I believe someone already commented on this, but I would like to also emphasize that it is a waste of roof space not to have solar panels on all roofs. All public buildings and newly constructed homes/buildings should be required to have a solar system. Financial incentives (direct/indirect) for installing solar systems on existing structures should be supported.**

**G7. Ensure that cultural resources and practices — including significant historic sites and culturally important traditional foods and natural resources — are resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and other natural hazards worsened by climate change.**

P2: Encourage the use of northwest native plants in landscaping, particularly adjacent to critical areas and discourage the use of invasive non-natives (e.g., English ivy); for example, work with partners to establish and sustain a native plant nursery and seed bank to support long-term restoration and carbon sequestration efforts.

1. Promote native and drought tolerant species in the initial plantings of all new developments/communities or the alteration of existing developments.
2. Promote native tree species and species that support wildlife (shelter/food). Limit the use of maples and promote diversity in tree selections for landscape plans. Oak trees have been shown to sequester the most carbon and should be promoted.
3. Support a requirement for increased tree canopy area/tree density to be added to all new communities/developments/neighborhoods or the alteration of existing developments.
4. Promote the preservation of heritage trees.

**G8. Improve public awareness of environmental topics including native plant varieties, benefits, and care; ecosystem functions; **conservation**, and human relationships to nature.**

P1: Develop education programs targeting youth and climate affected communities that build resilience by increasing understanding of environmental processes, **challenges**, and stewardship strategies.

1. Support an annual fair event with partners from the incorporated areas of Clark County to promote awareness and conservation.
  - a. ( We moved to Clark County from Broward County, Florida. Every year Broward County would sponsor an event called Water Matters Day (<https://www.broward.org/NaturalResources/WaterConservation/Pages/WaterMattersDay.aspx>) . The event included a tree giveaway to residents, booths about different conservation issues, and an essay contest for the schools (Elementary, Middle, and High School categories).
2. Foster a sense of community by offering awards to homeowners/businesses that promote conservation efforts.

**G11. Support sustainable practices in **residential**, economic and industrial sectors to reduce waste and consumption.**

1. Coordinate with recycling businesses to ensure all plastic packaging is recyclable.
  - a. As it is now many of the plastic clamshell type containers are not recyclable through Waste Connections. As a homeowner, I have to pay a separate company "Ridwell" to recycle items that Waste Connection will not take. This should be remedied as it is not equitable. Many homeowners can not pay the extra to recycle these items so they end up in the landfill.
2. Initiate/promote a residential and commercial food waste composting program.

**G12. Protect, conserve and recover salmonids and other fish species within Clark County.**

P1: Restore the structure and function of streams and floodplains to increase habitat climate resilience for coldwater fish.

1. Designate areas along streams/rivers and in floodplains as no build areas.

**G13. Increase tree canopy cover and green spaces**

P1: Choose a **diverse selection** of native, drought and pest-resistant trees, shrubs, **perennials**, and grasses in restoration efforts to support climate resilience; Increase tree canopy especially in urban areas to combat the urban heat island effect, **stabilize soils**, provide shade and **sequester carbon**. Provide opportunities for community engagement and stewardship around green space.

1. Promote a % of newly developed/re-developed land for green space including space for community gardens.
2. Promote green spaces in areas that would create a connected wildlife corridor throughout the county.
3. Perform tree canopy assessments every two years to set prioritization goals.
4. Develop a tree canopy ordinance.

**G14. Identify, protect and conserve environmentally critical areas including riparian areas, urban and rural open space, wetlands, prairies, and forests.**

P1: Ensure no net loss of ecosystem composition, structure, and function, especially in Priority Habitats and Critical Areas, and strive for net ecological gain to enhance climate resilience.

1. Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster resilience to climate impacts. Protect areas that provide for safe passage of migratory species.

P2: Restoration strategies should be developed and implemented such that **species composition** and ecosystem processes are sustainable in the long term.

1. Promote an ecosystem approach to sustainable development.

**G17. Protect community health and well-being from the impacts of climate-exacerbated hazards — prioritizing focus on overburdened communities — and ensure that the most vulnerable residents do not bear disproportionate health impact.**

1. During times of drought or excessive heat, fires and fireworks should not be allowed without a permit.

P1: Evaluate and implement habitat reduction and population control for arthropod disease vectors (e.g., mosquitos and ticks) and zoonotic disease reservoirs (e.g., rodents) using integrated pest-management methods.

P2: Protect the health and wellbeing of outdoor workers exposed to extreme heat and other climate-exacerbated hazards.

**G19. ~~Maintain and enhance the region's air quality.~~ Enhance and improve the region's air quality. Our air quality is subpar so why do we want to maintain that.**

P1: Clark County's air resource is to be managed to **improve** air quality.

1. Support regulations to prohibit prolonged idling (in excess of 15 minutes) of diesel powered engines within the county limits.
2. Improve public transportation options.

**G21. Develop **and implement** a multi-modal transportation system with options for individuals with varying degrees of mobility.**

1. Ensure pathways, sidewalks, and bike trails are free of defects/obstacles to allow for safe and efficient usage.
2. Improve and enhance public transit options. (Currently the areas on the edge of the growth boundary have very limited public transit options, however, the population density of these areas is greatly increasing.

**G24. Manage water resources sustainably to meet the needs of the public, businesses, **industry**, and ecosystems under changing climate conditions.**

1. Establish Consumptive Use Permits for water withdrawal for municipalities, commercial, and industrial purposes.

P1: Support pilot projects that foster collaboration for providing water for people, fish, and farms, such as water banks, irrigation modernization, and other mechanisms to ensure sufficient water supply for agriculture.

P2: Evaluate the long-term adequacy of water delivery infrastructure to ensure that changes in hydrological patterns (e.g., increases in flooding frequency or reduction of late-summer water availability associated with climate change) can be anticipated and managed effectively.

P3: Protect groundwater and surface water as a resource for drinking water, commerce, recreation and for wildlife by: minimizing the amount of impervious area created by developments **and retrofitting/redevelopment in existing areas**; promoting the use of non-toxic pesticides and fertilizers; minimizing potential application of sludge or animal waste material in or near sensitive areas such as aquifer recharge areas or surface water bodies as required by state law; ~~providing stormwater management service as specified in the Capital Facilities and Utilities Element (Chapter 6) of the 20-Year Plan; and using biological engineering methods to control stream bank erosion.~~(Maybe this priority should be moved to G25)

1. Limit livestock grazing and stabling within 25 feet of natural water bodies. (It amazes me that cows can just walk into the river and poop.)
2. Provide a vegetative buffer zone from agricultural areas and waterbodies.
3. Clean up of contaminated sites along waterways should be a priority.

**G25. Provide a **long-range** stormwater management program to minimize impacts from stormwater discharge of streets, parking lots, commercial areas, and existing and new developments.**

P1: Require the use of green infrastructure and low-impact development to address increased storm intensities and stormwater runoff.

1. Remove from use any dry wells that are greater than 10 feet deep and plumb them into stormwater treatment systems. (Runoff from streets and parking lots should not go into dry wells as the runoff contains contaminants like tire residue, arsenic from brake pads, and oil products from vehicles. When we have heavy rainfall in winter our groundwater level rises and any street runoff residue has a direct impact on groundwater through the drywells.)
2. Limit seasonal fertilizer/weed and feed applications preceding large rainfall events for county owned green space/parks. Weather anomalies should be considered during routine green space/park maintenance.
3. Limit the amount of imperious space in new and re-developed areas.

**G26. Encourage and support diverse, affordable housing options throughout the county. Encourage and support equal access to housing for rental and homeowners and protect public health and safety.**

P1: Ensure that policies, codes and regulations, including public development covenants, provide the opportunity to site affordable housing types, in particular off-site manufactured homes and accessory **dwelling** units. Develop a fair share housing allocation that provides low and moderate income housing targets for cities and urban growth areas. The program should include a housing inventory, incentives and financing mechanisms. Prioritize the development of anti-displacement programs in overburdened communities when increasing densities.

1. New developments should include a variety of housing types such as townhomes/apartments, smaller square footage single family (< 2,000 square feet), larger square footage (>2,000 sq feet) single family homes.
2. Provide assistance for homeowners to build ADUs. Ensure the permit process is not too cumbersome or burdensome which would prohibit the construction of such units.

**G28. Encourage sustainable development within the existing urban growth area. Protect and preserve ~~and-away-from~~ hazard-prone areas.**

P1: Integrate natural hazard mitigation planning into land-use planning processes by identifying and mapping hazards, assessing vulnerability, and implementing measures to reduce risk, such as avoiding development in floodplains, wildfire-prone areas, and landslide zones and incentivizing or mandating climate-smart building practices.

1. Designate hazard areas as unbuildable and ensure they are maintained in their natural state to protect natural elements and build elements.

P2: Improve sustainability and environmental justice by engaging with community members on new planning projects. (Should have its own).

1. Ensure an adequate and accessible community comment period.

P3: Where appropriate, support retrofitting, relocation, or acquisition from willing property owners of structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with **areas that have** repetitive and severe repetitive loss as a priority.

**P4:** Plan and build facilities, utilities, and infrastructure projects to avoid or withstand flooding, wildfires, landslides and associated climate impacts (e.g., changing flood plains). **Feel this should be its own policy.**

1. New electrical utilities should be placed underground
2. Existing electrical wires should be moved underground

Suggestion for an additional goal:

**G29:** Incorporate climate resilient goals into all Clark County planning documents (Menu of Measures, Regional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, Shoreline Master Program, etc.)