

# ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE PROTECTION

## VISION STATEMENT

**We envision San Marcos to be a community of outstanding stewards of our irreplaceable unique natural environment. We value our resource and energy efficiency and our community's health, well being and prosperity.**



## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

### GOAL 1

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY AND FACILITATING APPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SAN MARCOS AND BLANCO RIVERS WATERSHEDS, AND OVER THE EDWARDS AQUIFER USING MEASURABLE AND SCIENTIFIC METHODS

#### Objectives:

**Incorporate** Low Impact Development practices and other best practices early on and throughout the development process

**Audit** the effectiveness of Environmental Code Compliance and use this information to recommend staffing levels, training, and code changes

**Develop** an educational and place-making program illustrating the location of the natural boundaries and environmentally sensitive areas of our City including watersheds and Edwards Aquifer recharge zone and contributing zones

**Adopt** watershed specific regulations based on scientific understanding of water quality impacts

**Develop** a regional detention and water quality strategy (including fee-in-lieu) to improve land efficiency, affordability, and efficacy of systems

**Establish** a team with representatives from the County, City, and other public and private entities to identify lands and develop policies for the preservation and maintenance of environmentally sensitive watershed lands

**Incentivize** dense development within the activity centers by lifting the regulatory environment, streamlining the development process and proactively building the infrastructure and regional detention facilities to support this growth



## GOAL 2

NATURAL RESOURCES NECESSARY TO OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND PROSPERITY SECURED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

### Objectives:

**Develop** a coordinated tree preservation and planting program

**Join** the regional effort to improve air quality

**Adopt** comprehensive ordinances that actively support local food production and preservation of agricultural lands for farming

**Model** sustainable practices in infrastructure, operations, and facilities in city projects

**Adopt** a program to implement the greenway system that is identified in the preferred scenario and integrate this trail system with the Parks Master Plan

### GOAL 3

PRO-ACTIVE POLICIES THAT  
ENCOURAGE RECYCLING AND  
RESOURCE AND  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY

#### Objectives:

**Conduct** a rate structure study, use the information to balance water and energy conservation goals with the economic viability of the utility

**Decrease** per capita energy and water use to meet the highest standards of the STAR guide for cities

**Adopt** and implement the recommendations of the Municipal Solid Waste Task Force

**Create** a point system to measure the sustainable elements of proposed development in order to qualify for utility, process, and other incentives

**Develop** re-claimed water infrastructure plan for activity nodes

**Create** connected network for non-automobile travel

### GOAL 4

A POPULATION PREPARED FOR AND  
RESILIENT TO MAN-MADE AND NATURAL  
DISASTERS

#### Objectives:

**Adopt** comprehensive floodplain development regulations

**Implement** an education and outreach program that identifies, and alerts citizens to, risks and responses to all hazards, in coordination with other governmental entities,

