



# Sustainable Sonoma: Nuts and Bolts

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No one organization or sector can solve the big problems facing our community. Sustainable Sonoma is a platform, a forum, for organizations and community stakeholders to come to the table for the benefit of Sonoma Valley.

## MISSION

Our mission is make positive change in Sonoma Valley by aligning the sectors and interest groups in the community towards shared goals and measurable targets, and supporting efforts that work towards those goals. This common agenda will align our activities and accelerate success in achieving a sustainable community.

## OUTCOMES

- Ambitious, shared goals that are agreed to by most of the sectors and interest groups in the community. Find the “highest common denominator.”
- Measurable targets against which we track progress over time.
- Agreements and alliances that achieve multiple outcomes over time, getting closer to our vision.

## VISION

Sonoma Valley is a thriving, just, sustainable community, a model for Sonoma County, the state, and the nation.

## TIMELINE

2015 - 2016: concept development, focus groups, one-to-one conversations across interests

2017: initial funding, Steering Committee formation, governance structure, initial Council meeting

2018: public forum on community values and goals, Work Groups active

2020 or earlier: conditions in place to expand to Sonoma County level

## TWO-YEAR BUDGET

September 2017 - August 2019

\$125,000

Sources include the Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, generous donors, and pending grants.

## **STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS**

Sustainable Sonoma is an alliance of community interests with its own decision-makers, staff, and activities.

### **Steering Committee**

Operational oversight, including budget, HR, and driving the strategic planning for growth and success of Sustainable Sonoma. Its members make decisions using practical consensus, promote Sustainable Sonoma, and keep Sustainable Sonoma true to its mission, vision, and values.

Current members: Patricia Shults (Chamber of Commerce), Juan Hernandez (La Luz), Richard Dale (Sonoma Ecology Center).

### **Council**

A forum consisting of all the major interests in the Sonoma Valley community. It is charged with developing trust and understanding over time that form the basis for collaborative efforts to create positive change for Sonoma Valley.

Current members: first meeting 10/27/2017, yet to be formalized.

### **Work Groups**

Do the work to make progress on specific topics and priorities. The objective of a Work Group is set by the Council and Steering Committee, but it may operate independently to achieve that objective. Work Groups are composed of anyone needed to accomplish the objective, whether they are formally involved in Sustainable Sonoma or not.

Current Work Groups: governance, backbone, common agenda.

### **Advisors**

Provide guidance to the Steering Committee and staff, identify opportunities, champion Sustainable Sonoma in the community, and act as liaisons between Sustainable Sonoma and the public.

Current Advisors: Ellie Insley, Katherine Fulton, Norman Gilroy, Ted Hoffman, Jim Bundschu, David Bolling.

### **Staff**

Conduct the work of Sustainable Sonoma, including administration, facilitation, coordination, management of activities, and supporting every Work Group.

Current staff: Caitlin Cornwall, Kim Jones, Beth Dadko.