



Sustainability Principles For Sonoma Developmental Center

Environmental Sustainability:

1. **Context.** Because it is large and mostly wild, the SDC property operates as a system of elements that affect each other. Likewise, the property affects, and is affected by, adjoining areas outside its boundaries. Uses need to account for impacts in space and time to rest of the property, its resources, and its surroundings.

2. **Biodiversity.** Changes should increase numbers of native species, habitats, and plant communities on the property. Changes should decrease area of paved, compacted, or built land. For example, the area between Arnold Dr. bridges should revert to a natural state.

3. **Connectivity.** Changes should increase the ability of native animals and plants to flourish in and move across the property and beyond its borders. The width of stream corridors in a natural condition, without fences or other structures, should increase.

4. **Water.** Changes should increase the capacity of the property to detain, capture, hold, recharge, clean, and slowly discharge water, using an approach that protects, restores, or mimics the natural water cycle. Structures and operations should be water-neutral or water producing over their life-cycle, including demolition and construction.

5. **Visuals and Noise.** The stunning views within, beyond, and into the property should be protected. Noise levels and nighttime light levels should be kept low and should not extend beyond building perimeters, to protect rural character, wildlife, and astronomical viewing.

6. **Climate protection.** Structures and operations should be carbon-neutral or carbon-negative over their life cycle, including demolition and construction. Retrofit should be the first choice. Design should incentivize transit and disincentivize use of single-occupancy vehicles.

Community Sustainability:

7. **Community.** The site is integral to the look and feel of Sonoma Valley and uses must consider impacts on the community.

8. **Cultural Resources.** Local Native American groups and experts should be consulted to determine where and how to protect cultural sites and teach the public about them.

9. **History.** The use of the property should recognize its long history, telling its stories, good and bad, for future generations.

10. **Local Economy.** Changes should support existing staff and their expertise, support existing residents and their families, and support a thriving, diverse, local economy that reinforces the goals and character of the community.

11. ***Social Justice***. Housing on site should be priced to be inclusive of a diverse spectrum of Sonomans over the long term.

12. ***Recreation***. The natural and cultural treasures of the property should be easily accessible to the public, as long as preceding principles are upheld in doing so.