





1991

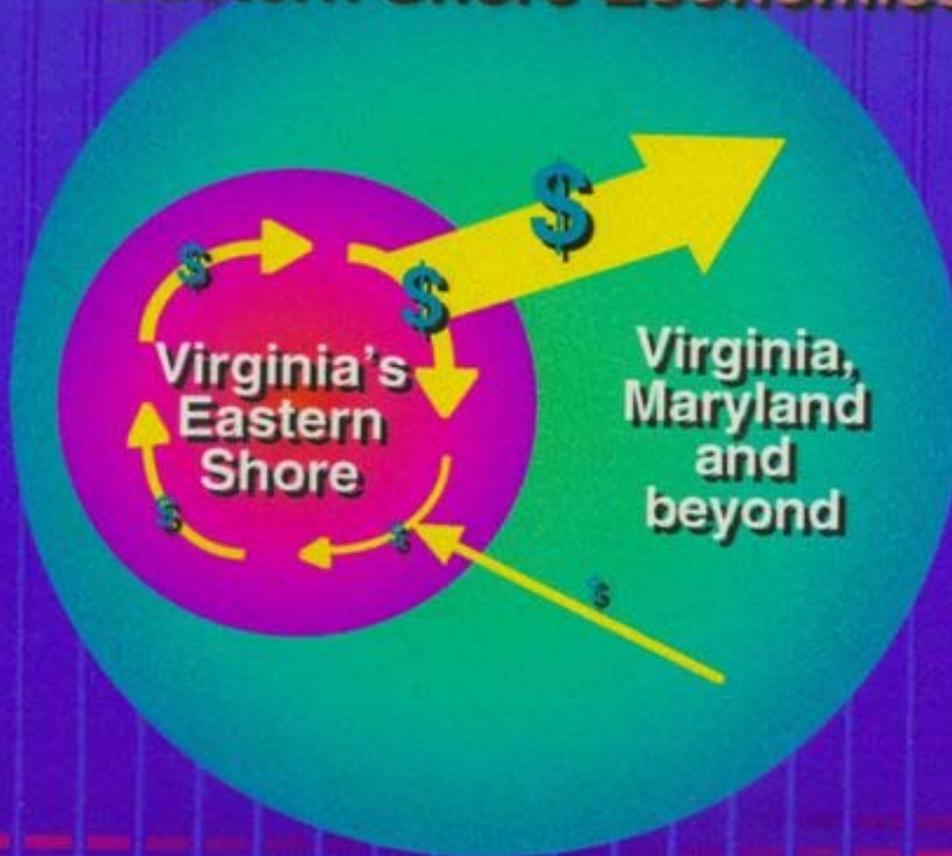


2001



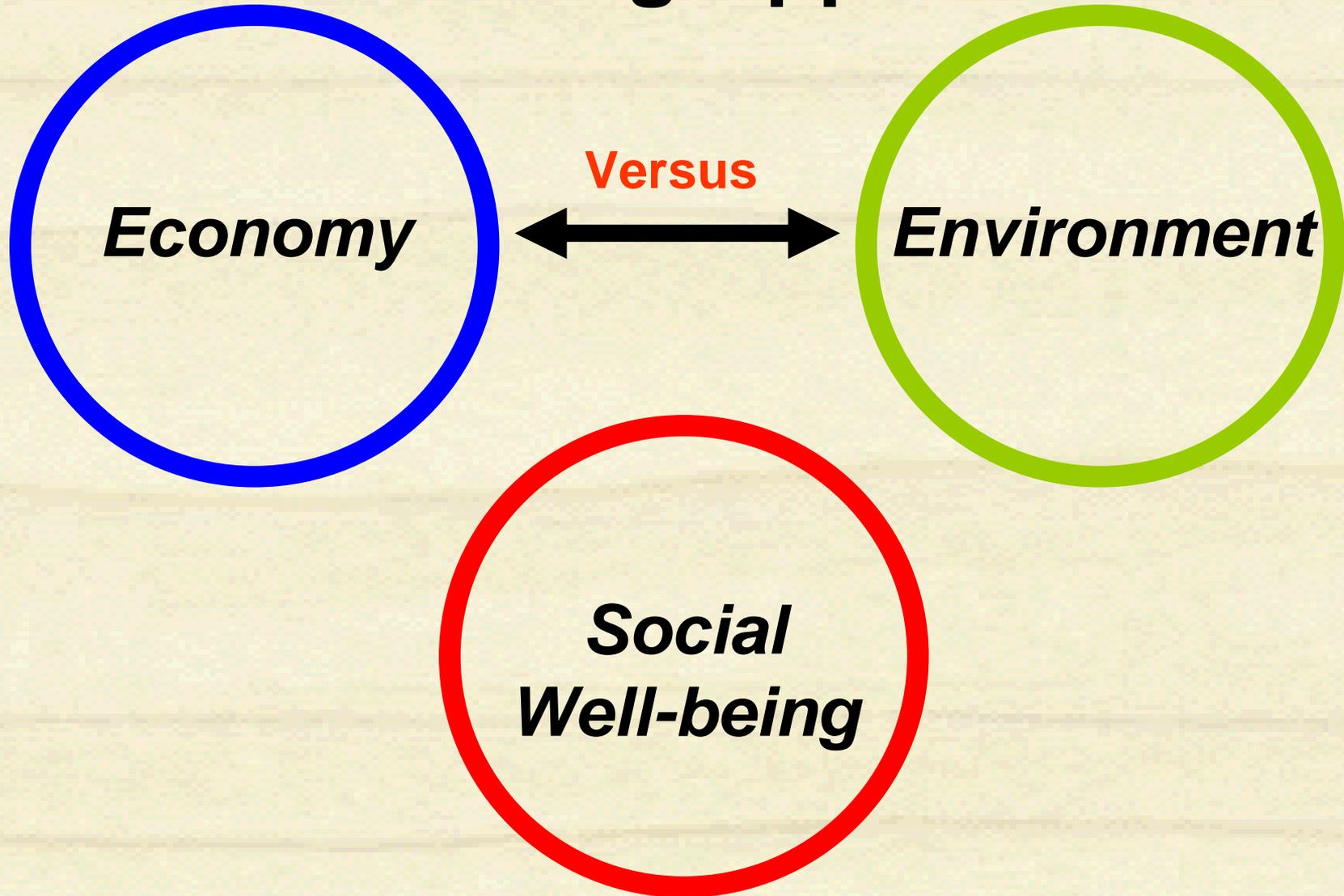
Rural Economic Leakage

Conceptual Flow of Dollars (\$) Through the Eastern Shore Economies





Traditional Comprehensive Planning Approach

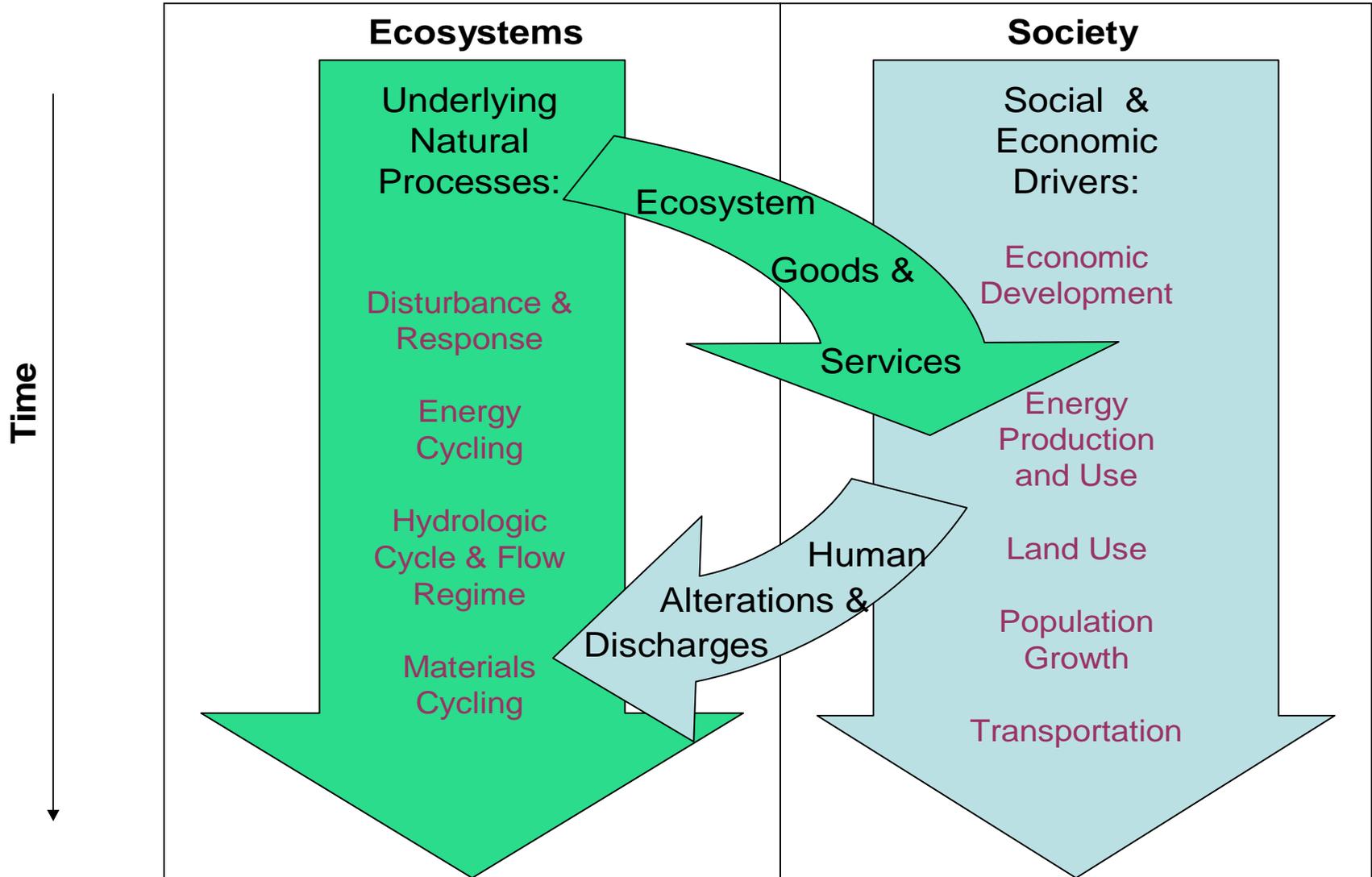


Dauphin Island Comp Plan – 2000

(selected actions)

- **Wetlands Preservation**
- **Building Codes**
- **Non-Conforming Land Uses**
- **Sign Ordinance**
- **Parking Regulations**
- **Repetitive Loss Properties**
- **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**
- **Porous Driveways**
- **Conservation Park Zoning District**
- **Parking Regulations**
- **Consolidation and Coordination**
- **Unified Land Use Regulations**

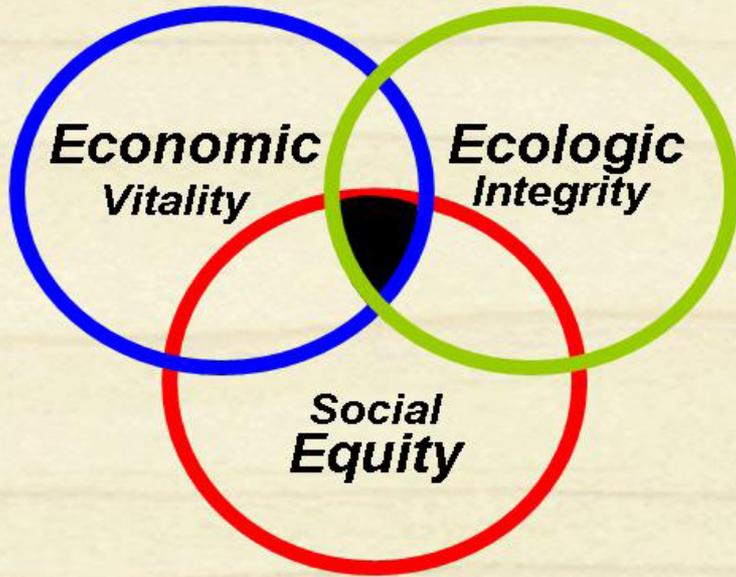
The Biophysical Environment



Systems Approach to Sustainability

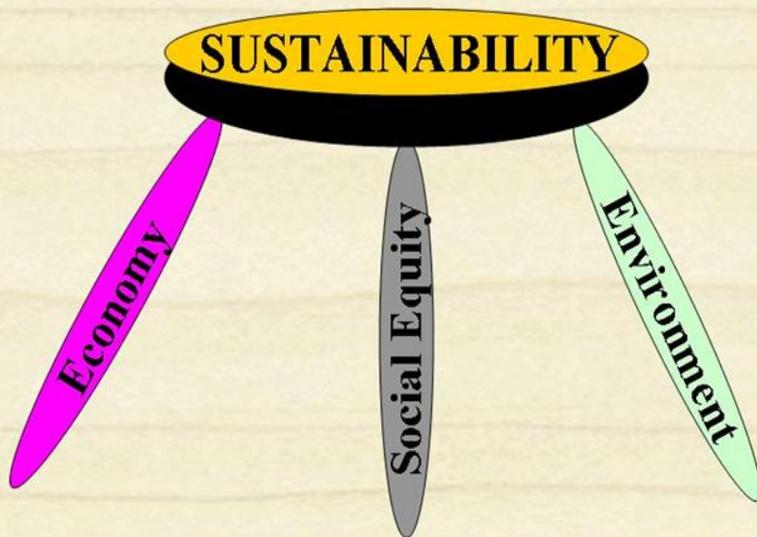


Sustainability Model

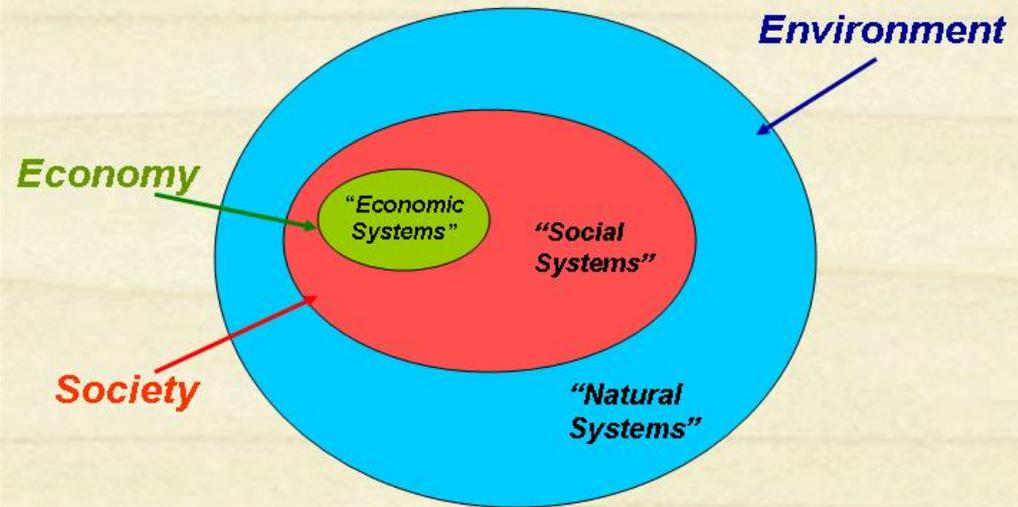


Conceptualizing Sustainability

Three-Legged Stool



The Directionality of Sustainability Elements



Elements of Sustainability

- Economic Vitality (Compatible with Nature) -- *development that protects and/or enhances natural resource quantities through improvements in management practices/policies, technology, efficiency, and changes in life-style.*
- Ecologic Integrity (Ecosystem Capacity) -- *understanding natural system processes of landscapes and watersheds to guide design of sound economic development strategies that preserve these natural systems.*
- Social Equity (Balancing the Playing Field) -- *guaranteeing equal access to jobs (income), education, natural resources, and services for all people; total societal welfare.*

Acting Sustainably Requires Thinking About the:

- **Connections**
- **Consequences**
- **Choices**

What is Sustainability?

A Community will have achieved sustainability when it understands the connected economic, social, and environmental consequences of its actions and makes deliberate, informed choices that allow all people to lead healthy, productive, and enjoyable lives in the community, now and in the future, without experiencing unintended consequences.

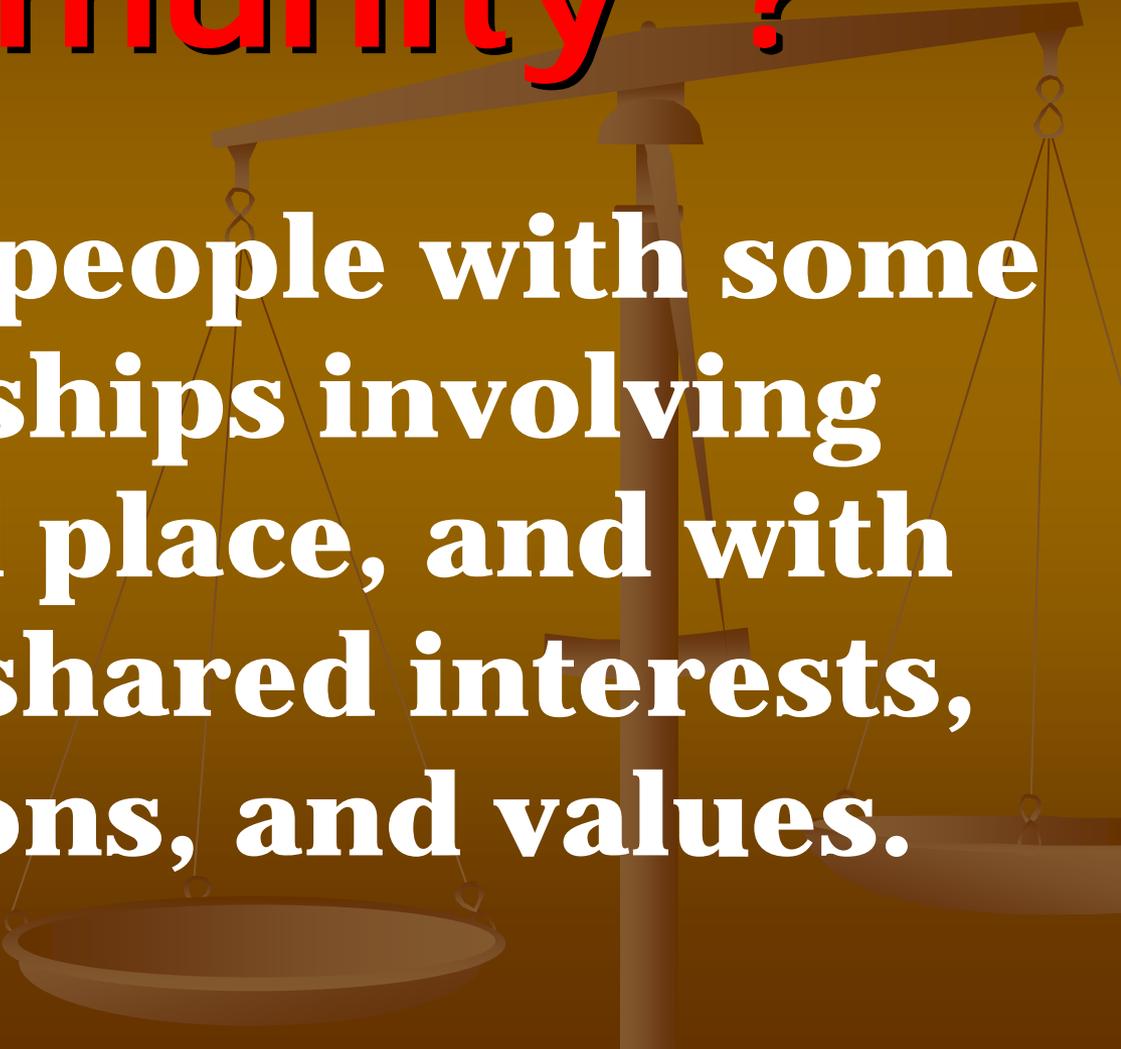


Simple, Graphic Definition of Sustainability

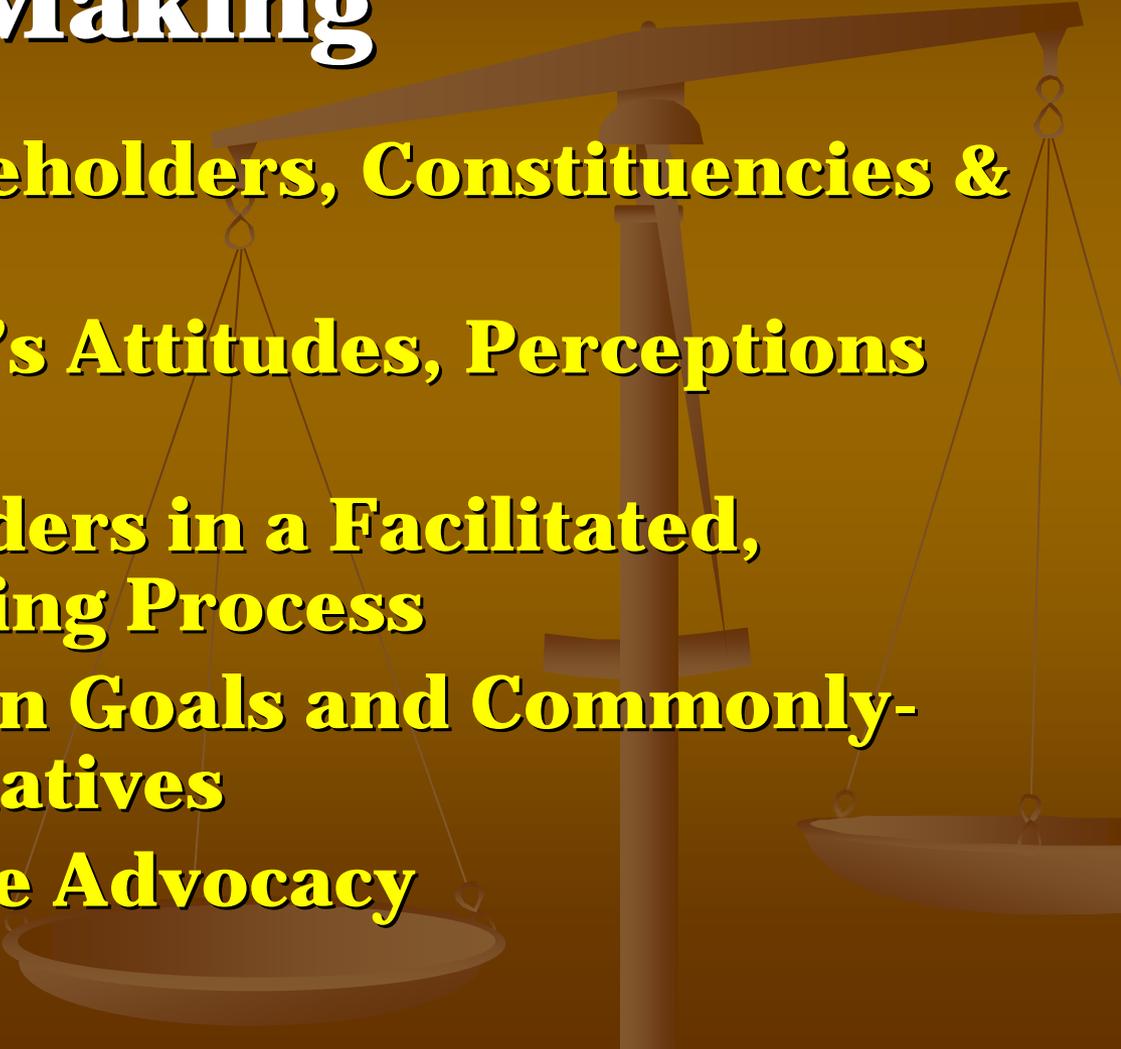
- **Sustainability is a relationship between generations such that the earlier generations fulfill their individual wants and needs so as not to destroy, or close off, important and valued options for future generations.**
 - **Living sustainably is maintaining the important mix of options and opportunities while creating no new and onerous constraints.**
 - **Living unsustainably is losing them, narrowing the range of options that subsequent generations can choose among in their attempt to adapt, survive, and prosper.**
 - **Sustainability is thus most basically an acceptance of responsibility for the multi-dimensional impacts of our sometimes-violent actions on people in other places or in the future.**
- 
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- 

What is a "Community"?

A group of people with some relationships involving space and place, and with potential shared interests, perceptions, and values.



New Directions in Community Based Resource Decision- Making



- **Identify the Stakeholders, Constituencies & Special Interests**
- **Draw-out People's Attitudes, Perceptions and Values**
- **Engage Stakeholders in a Facilitated, Consensus-building Process**
- **Evaluate Common Goals and Commonly-developed Alternatives**
- **Promote Effective Advocacy**

Public Consultation

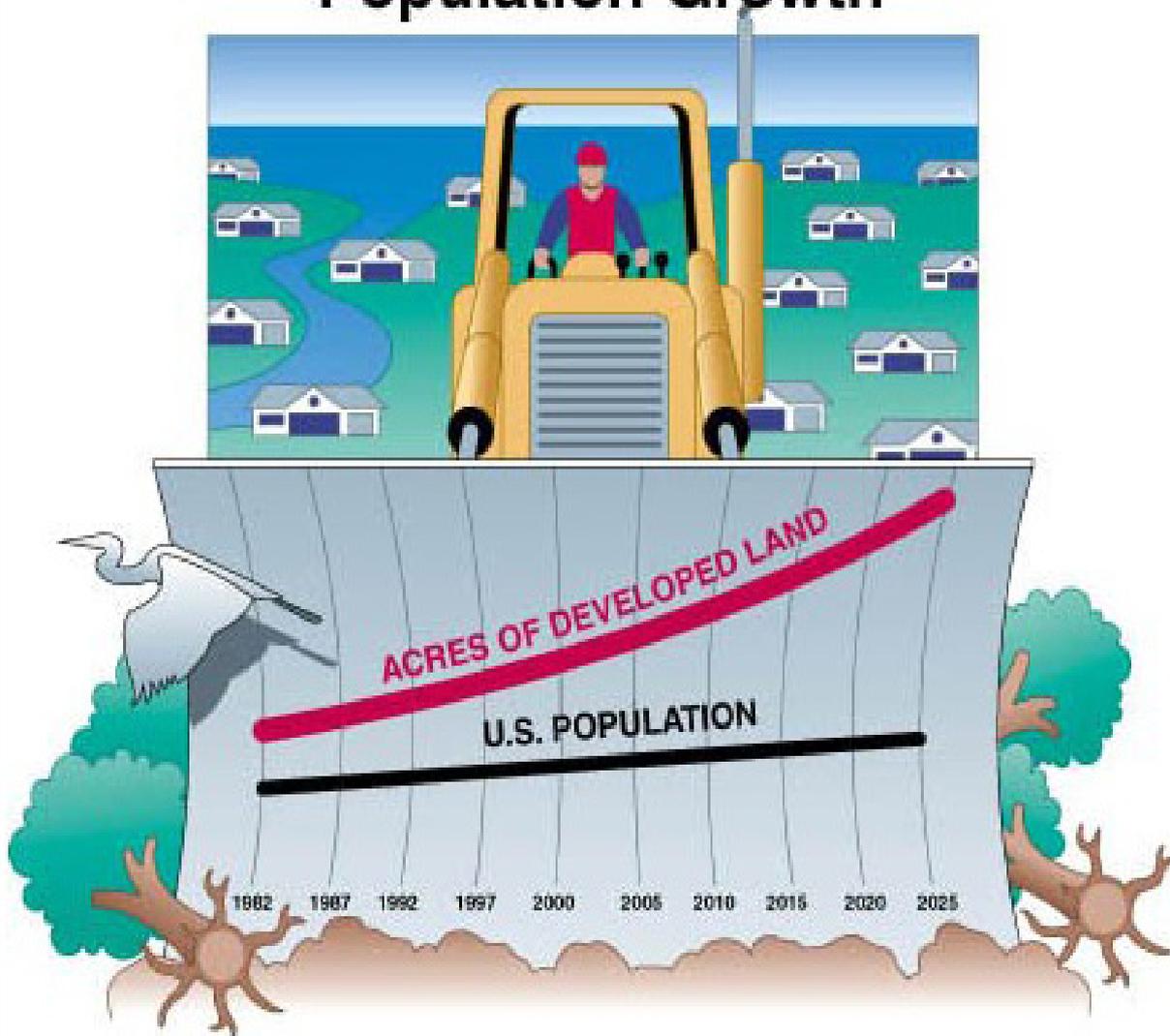
- To identify CONCERNS -- those issues and problems that cause us worry
- To identify ASSETS -- strengths we wish to preserve for the future

To begin achieving sustainable community development we must re-examine the process of decision-making and the carrying out of actions, supported by our understanding of science, that will:



- a) integrate actions of conservation and socio-economic development;**
- b) satisfy basic human needs;**
- c) achieve equality and social justice for all;**
- d) maintain ecological integrity;**
- e) provide social self-determination and cultural diversity; and**
- f) consider our legacy to future generations.**

Land Development and Population Growth



**Conservation
-Based
Development**

**Low-Impact
Development**

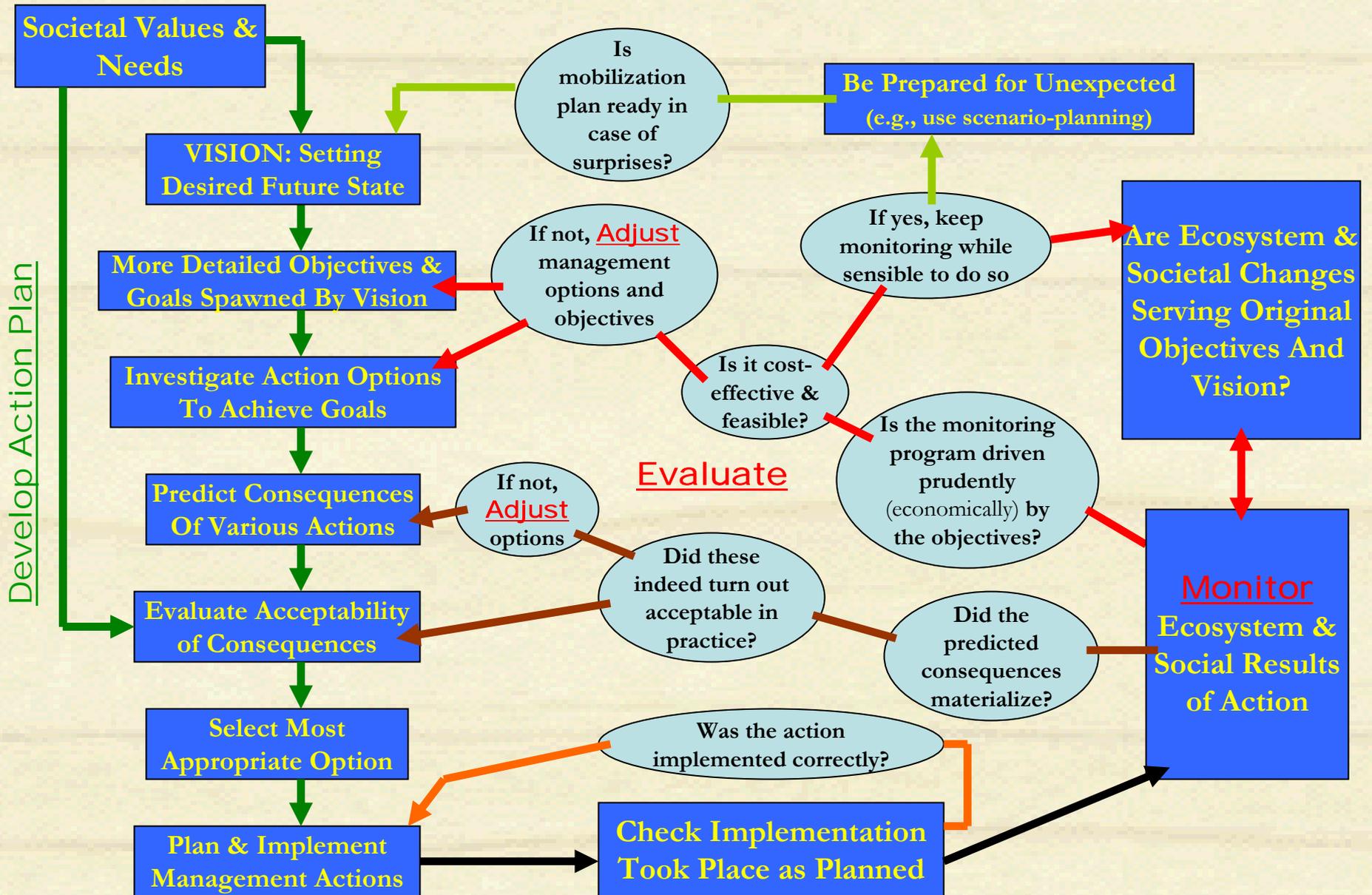
Concerns About Planning for Future

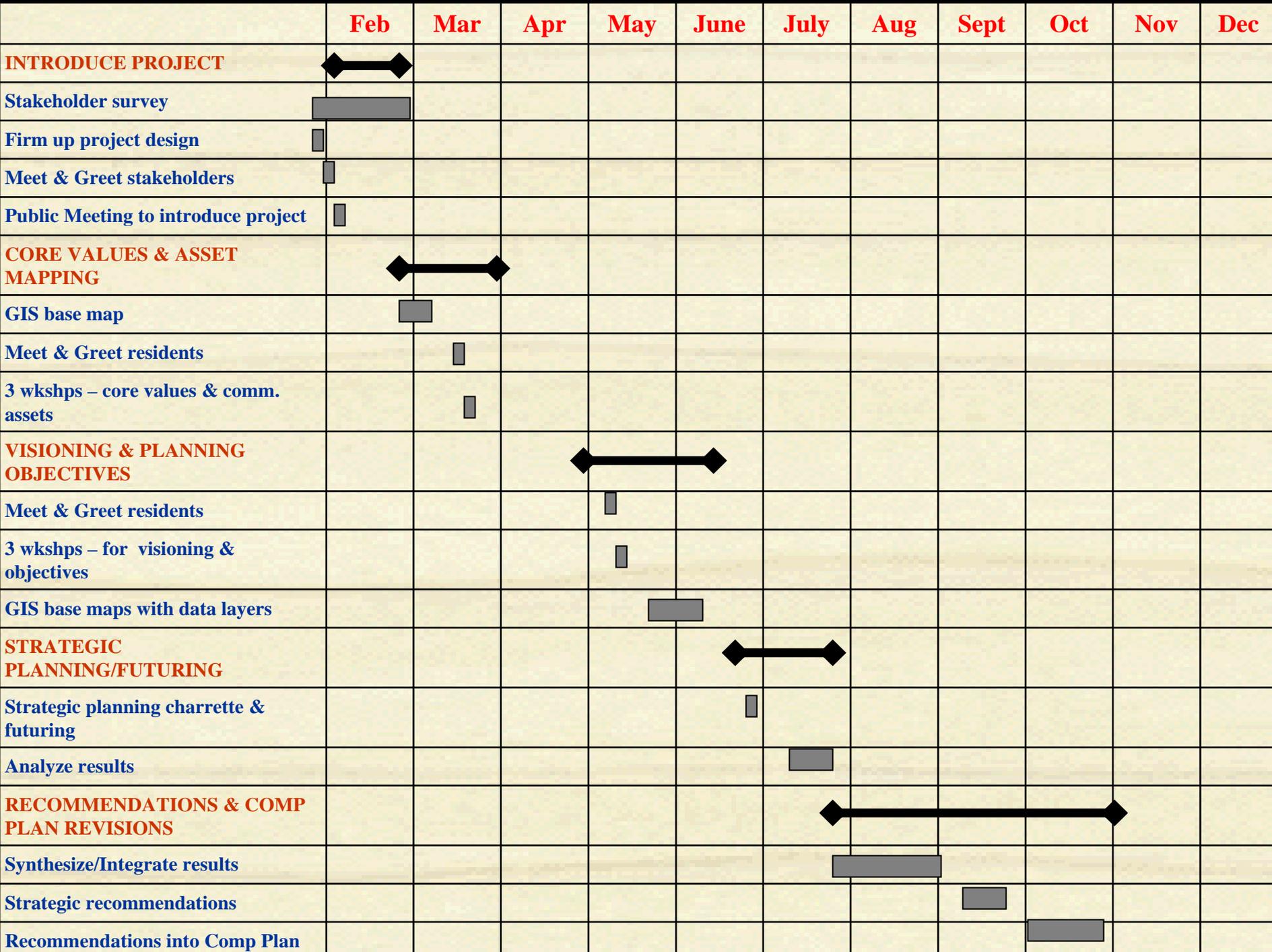
- How can the Community come together to develop a common vision of what the Island should be in 20 to 30 years?
- How can the Community plan for and develop improvements to Island infrastructure that are environmentally sensitive and hurricane resistant?
- How can the Community engage in commercial revitalization and expansion of economic opportunities in a way that capitalizes on its community assets?
- Can the Community manage growth while sustaining its unique environmental qualities that make the Island a special place?
- How can the Community maintain and improve housing diversity so that affordable housing for Island commercial/retail workers will be available?
- How can Dauphin Island improve/expand its arts, community, and recreational facilities, opportunities, and access to the water?
- How can the Town improve provision for social/community services on the Island?
- How can we better work both independently and interdependently as a community?
- Can Dauphin Island better coordinate its governing activities, financing activities, and organizational capacity of current entities?

Strategic Planning Process

- reviewing existing documents and statutes applicable to future development,
- providing stakeholder sustainability awareness and inventorying all stakeholder place-based interests, values, practices, and future vision,
- conducting community asset identification via public consultation processes,
- developing visual frameworks of historical and current conditions that will influence changes in environment, community development, and cultural views,
- planning and designing management strategies through public participation, including the visualization of possible futures and related timelines for progress, and
- promoting implementation of a management strategy and measurement processes.

Adaptive Management







Cultural & Spatial Mapping of a Landscape

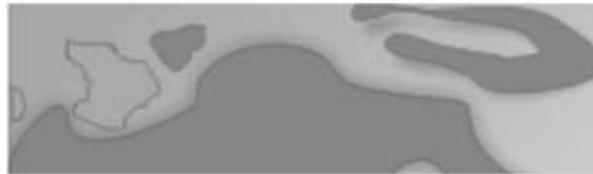
- to incorporate knowledge of human ecosystems in landscape analysis,
- to capture and build upon community awareness and relationships, and
- thus to activate greater involvement in stewardship.

Links together environment patterns & demography (space) with cultural knowledge of place.

Actual bioregion



Art & photography (1)



Interpreted bioregional patterns

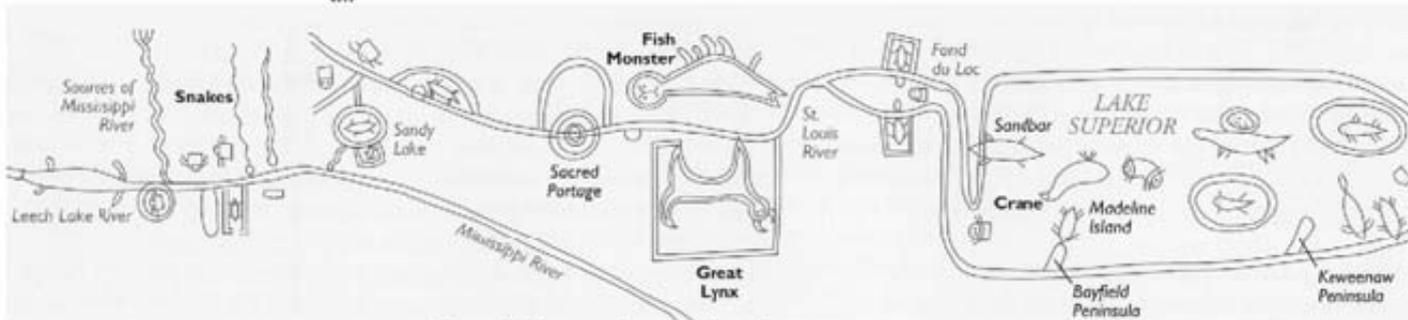


Site diagrams (3)



Environmental data via GIS

Spatial Narrative



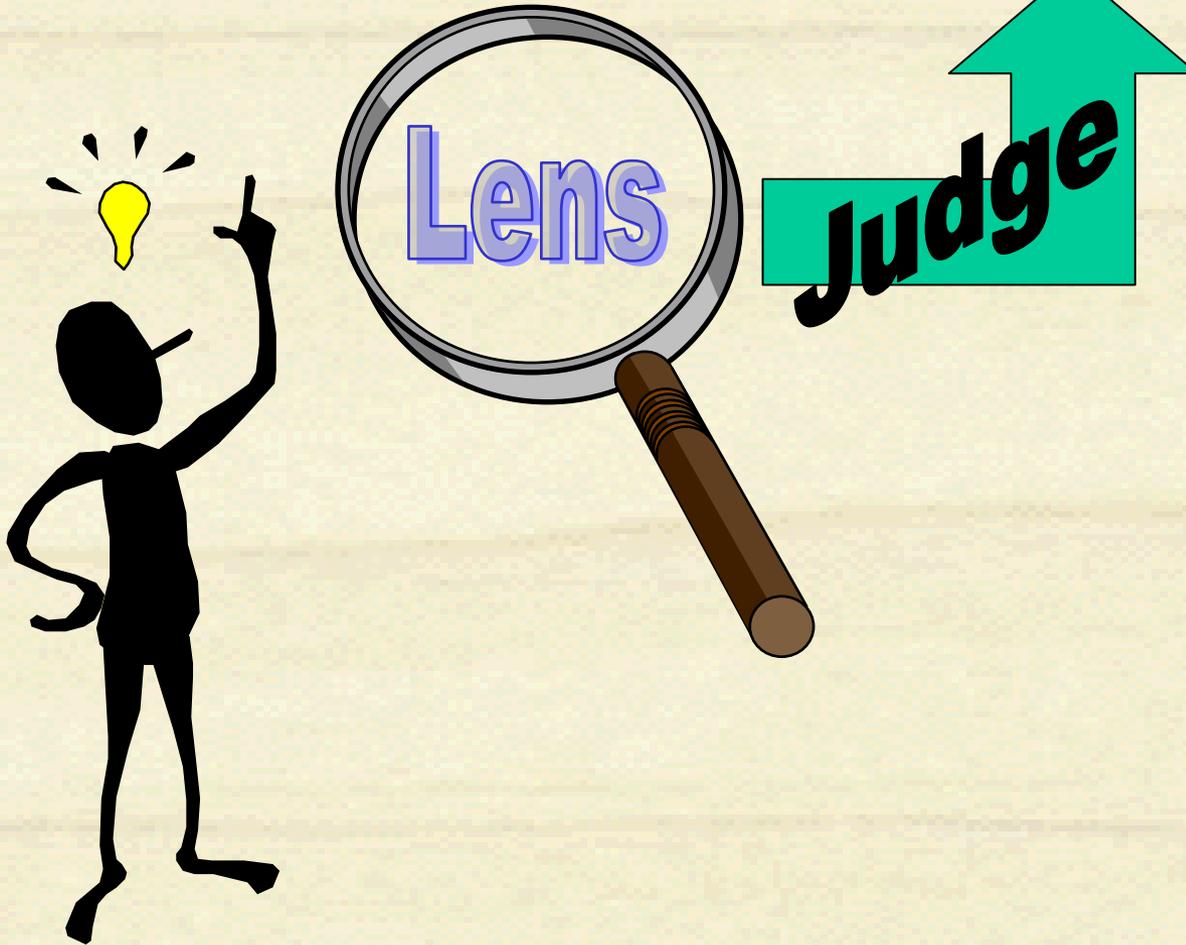
Traditional symbol map (2)



Literature, language, & song

Use of Criteria

Future Scenarios



Project Team Expectations

- **Process seeks to improve on participation rate (15%) of the 2000 Comp Plan**
- **Process will be open and transparent**
- **Process will be inclusive of diverse stakeholders**
- **Consultants will be accessible**
- **Process will include confidentiality where stakeholders seek it**
- **Process will be respectful and constructive among all stakeholders**
- **Process will work on consensus basis**
- **Stakeholders will honor the consensus**

**Partnering in the
Community's Success**



- **Creating a Shared Vision**
- **Achieving the Vision**
- **Community Responsibility**

**Protecting Our
Future**



- **Natural Environment**
- **Physical Infrastructure**

**Building a Vibrant
Community**



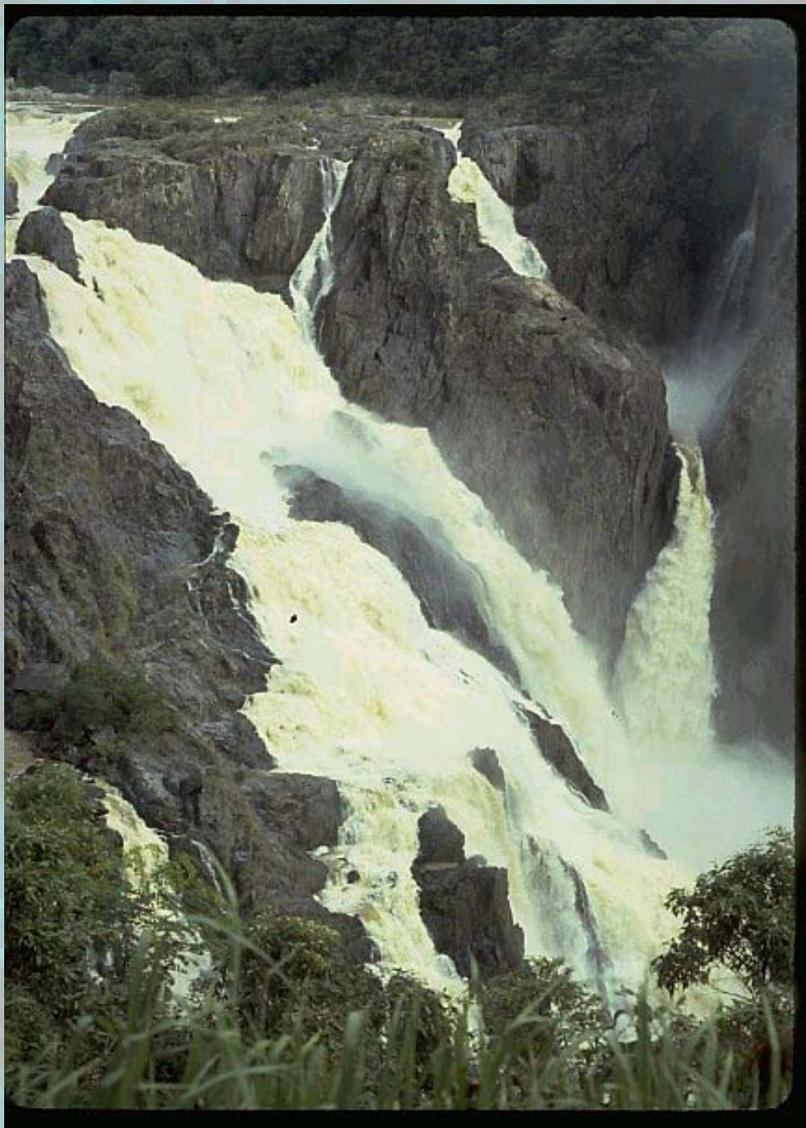
- **Sense of Community**
- **Culture**
- **Workforce**
- **Affordability**
- **Health Services & Education**

**Enriching the
Community Experience**



- **Economic Systems**
- **Land Use & Urban Design**
- **Access & Mobility**

Several dimensions to the sustainability issue:



- 1) We want to sustain the community as a good place to live, that offers economic and other opportunities to inhabitants.
- 2) We want to sustain the values of our society – things like individual liberty and democracy.
- 3) We want to sustain the biodiversity of the natural environment, both for the contribution that it makes to the quality of human life and for its own inherent value.
- 4) We want to sustain the ability of natural systems to provide life-supporting “services” that are rarely counted by economists, but which have recently been estimated to be worth nearly as much as total gross human economic product.



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