



A Vision of Sustainable Sonoma

*Below are examples of economic, environmental and social qualities Sonoma Valley might have, as identified by a small but broad set of Sonoma Valley people in 2016 to stimulate community conversation. **

People & Society

All our people thrive and achieve their life potential.

People who work here can afford to live here. "Jobs/housing balance." People have the economic resources to make ends meet.
Every child gets a high quality education.
People feel like the good qualities of their community will persist. Parents feel their children will be able to live well here. Young people feel there is work for them here.
This is a healthy place for all residents to live, work, and play. People eat healthy food, enjoy good mental health, are physically active, and can afford health care.
People are connected to their communities and participate in community life.
Government processes are clear, inclusive, and easy to engage with. People have faith in the system and feel it belongs to them. Policies reflect stated community goals.
Everyone has a valued place in the community. We invest more in those who need more. All have access to opportunities regardless of who they are. Work is paid fairly regardless of who you are.

Environment

The mix of land uses supports ecological health and economic well-being.

Growth and development occur within already developed areas, protecting agricultural and natural areas from development. The built environment (buildings, roads, energy grid, communications grid) is restrained to protect our community's rural character.
The wildlife, plant communities, and natural systems that support and delight us are healthy and resilient to the impacts of climate change.
We have a reliable supply of clean water for people and nature.
Greenhouse gas emissions are consistent with <1.5 degrees (C) of global climate change.

Economy

Our robust local economy supports local people and community goals.

Tourism serves community goals. It protects our rural community character and the well-being of local residents.
Philanthropic giving is consistent with stated community goals, and coordinated to achieve those goals.
We have a skilled workforce that supports local hiring needs.
We maintain a diverse, thriving, rural, agricultural economy. People who grow food here can afford to live here.
Our economy is healthy, diversified, and resilient, and supports local business formation and retention.
People can find opportunity here. Infrastructure investments support our community's future. Built systems are resilient to the impacts of climate change.

* Ava Castro (Future Farmers of America, church, youth), Beth Dadko (Sonoma County Department of Health Services, Health Action), Caitlin Cornwall (Sonoma Ecology Center), Juan Hernandez (La Luz), Katherine Fulton (Sonoma Valley Fund), Laurie Decker (Chamber of Commerce), Mike Benziger (Retired Farmer), Patricia Shults (Chamber of Commerce), Richard Dale (Sonoma Ecology Center)



What's at Stake?

Given how Sonoma is now changing, if this community fails to deal with the chronic and growing issues everyone is familiar with, what will Sonoma look like in 20 years? What happens if we fail to deal adequately, together, with the integrated environmental/social/economic issues?

*Below are examples of possible futures, as identified by a small but broad set of Sonoma Valley people in 2016 to stimulate community conversation. **

- Housing is unaffordable for most people
- Losing the wild places, the beauty, the habitat of Sonoma Valley
- An increasingly narrow basis for the economy, making it vulnerable
- Losing diversity in our community
- Extreme water scarcity and fire risk
- Losing a genuine, local community culture
- More part-time residents displacing locals, families and youth
- The local economy does not support the cost of living for people at most economic levels: workers commute to serve visitors
- More young people leaving when they finish high school, who cannot afford to return

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