



# Sustainable Community Index

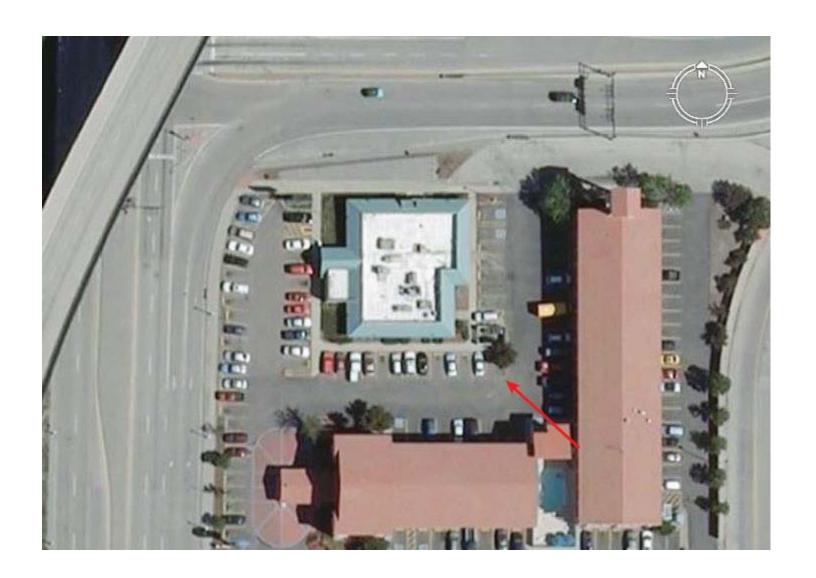
Defining smart growth in our communities

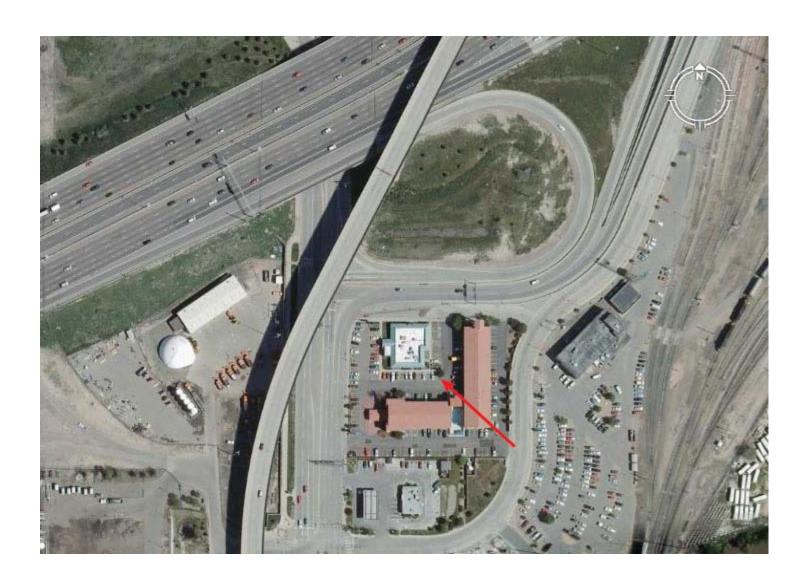


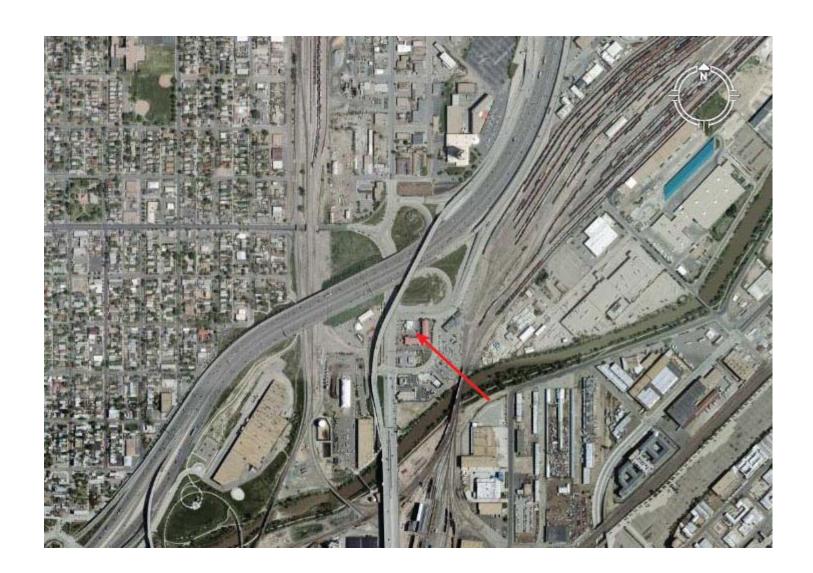
**RMLUI** 

# SCI not CSI











- 25-75 mph
- 300 mile range
- 12' x 7'





- 5 mph
- Around 6 ft. in height
- ¼ mile walking distance standard





- 10-15 mph
- 7-mile national average bicycle commute



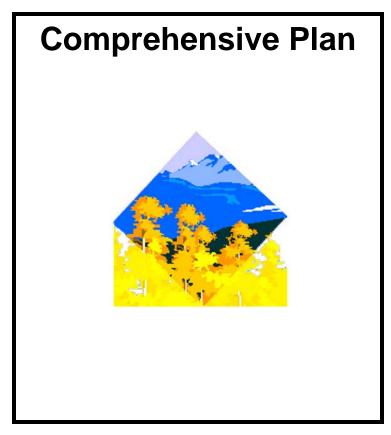


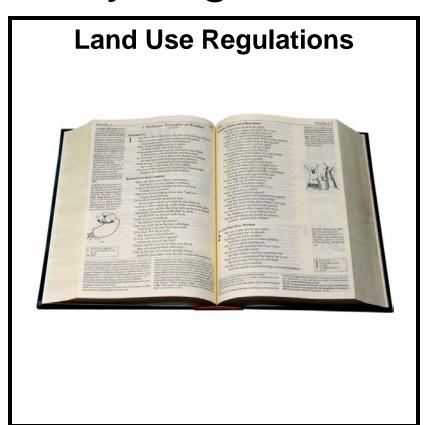
- 10-15 mph
- 7-mile national average bicycle commute

#### Goal:

- Promote positive new development within a larger social and environmental framework to meet many of the goals and policies regarding community sustainability outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Create working definition for many terms commonly used in public hearings.
- Be applicable and equitable to all projects
- Reduce uncertainty for developers
- Keep it simple

# Commonly these two documents are not necessarily aligned





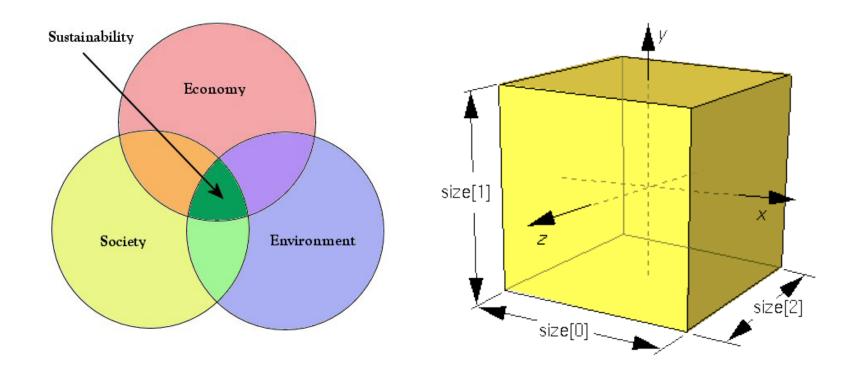
# Sustainable Community Index

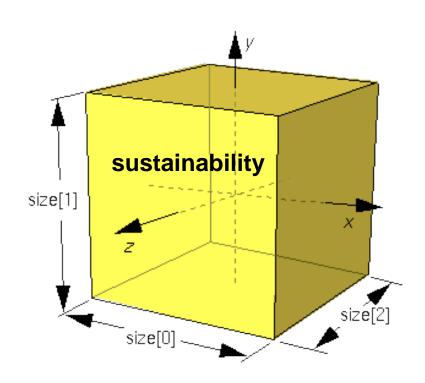
- SCI is a required finding for PUDs, PUD amendments, major special use permits, final plats, and zone changes (would not apply to minor subdivisions (3 units or less), minor special use permits, amended final plats, variances, or FONSIs).
- Came from comp plan policies, LEED ND (ULI, NRDC, AIA, APA), RMLUI sustainable development code, 2007 Quality of Place survey:
  - Establish open space buffer zones between towns and community centers: 82% said "yes".
  - Focus development by allowing higher density in towns and community centers to avoid sprawl: 70% said "yes."

# Sustainable Community Definition:

A community which fosters economic opportunity and social capital while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend.







# Green Creek PUD: 40 townhomes, environmental education school, fire department

		SITE/LOCATION
	pts.	
2	2-5	LOCATION INFILL/REDEVELOPMENT: Infill (4), adjacent (2), and/or previously developed (1)
5	5	TRANSIT: Over 50% of the development is within walking distance (1/4 mile) of transit stop (5).
4	2-4	PROXIMITY TO EXISTING WATER/WASTEWATER: ties into existing (4); public extension (2)
0	5	WILDLIFE/ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES: biological study with DOW compliance
0	1-3	RIPARIAN/WETLAND PRESERVATION: 100' setback and water quality testing
2	2	AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION: Doesn't remove historic/potential agricultural land
1	1-2	EXISTING VEGETATION PRESERVATION: <10% existing tree/shrubs impacted (1) or no impact (2)
0	2-3	BROWNFIELD/BLIGHT REDEVELOPMENT: Improves blighted lot (2), contamination cleanup (3)
2	2	STEEP SLOPES/RIDGELINES: on slopes less than 20%
0	1-3	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: 100% of surface drainage through bioswale/vegetated system.

		CONNECTIONS AND USES		
2	2	OPEN COMMUNITY: no gates, amenities are open to the public		
0	4	PUBLIC ACCESS: provides appropriate public access to public lands/rivers (with agency approval) 4 pts.		
0	4	COMPACT DEVELOPMENT: 7 or more units/acre; commercial > .50 FAR		
0	1-2	REDUCED FOOTPRINT: on previously disturbed area (1); all structures and parking < .50 lot (1)		
2	2	CLUSTERING: efficient infrastructure, development concentrated in node(s), allowing for open areas.		
0	3-18	OPEN SPACE: conservation easement meets components of open space criteria. See regulations.		
2	2-7	REDUCED PARKING FOOTPRINT: less surface parking (2-3), carpool (1), covered bike storage (1-2)		
0	2-4	PARKING LOCATION: surface parking to rear of structures only (4); to side and screened (2).		
1	1-3	REDUCED PARKING: Does not exceed LURs: 1 pt. Study shows reduced on-site demand (2-3 pts.)		
4	4	JOBS/HOUSING RATIO onsite housing for mixed-use non-residential (see regulations)		
3	3	SCHOOL PROXIMITY: within a mile of a public school		
4	1-20	DIVERSITY OF USES: 1 point each use category listed in regulations		
2	1-8	DIVERSITY OF HOUSING TYPES 1 point each housing type listed in regulations above 2.		
0	1-20	AFFORDABLE HOUSING 1 point each affordable housing unit provided above housing guidelines.		
0	2-4	AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING: Onsite rental housing, see regulations.		

		TRANSPORTATION
12	1-28	WALKABLE STREETS: see commentary note: 16 pts. Not applicable
0	1-3	STREET NETWORK: grid small block pattern, 2 pts, pedestrian connection at cul de sacs (1)
0	2-3	TRANSIT FACILITIES: transit stop provided by development (2 pts.), covered bike storage (1 add'l pt.)
3	1-4	<sup>7</sup> WALKABLE VICINITY: www.walkscore.com score 10-25=1pt, 26-50=2pts, 51-75=3pts, 76-100=4pts.
3	3	BICYCLE NETWORK: Connection to community center via bicycle paths/routes.
2	2	ACCESS TO PUBLIC SPACES: 90% of units within 1/4 mile of public green space
0	1-4	ACCESS TO ACTIVE SPACE: within 1/2 mile of ball field, 3-mile recreation trail, and/or dog park
0	1-3	LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION: private garden areas (1); community garden(s) (2); local market (1)

		RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
1	1-2	LIMITED TURF/SPECIES: <25% landscaped areas turf (1). Turf uses 25% less water than KBG (1).
1	1	DIVERSE NATIVE LANDSCAPE: Landscape plan utilizes 10 or more local native low-water species.
0	2	XERISCAPE: Landscape plan incorporates seven xeric design principles (see regulations)
0	5	SOLAR ORIENTATION: 75% of all buildings have solar orientation (see regulations)
3	3-30	RENEWABLE ENERGY 3 points for every 5% total energy offset by onsite renewable system(s).
0	1	INFRASTRUCTURE RECYCLED CONTENT: Concrete/asphalt 75% or more recycled content.
REQUIRED		RECYCLING: Design includes areas for recycling co-mingled, paper, and cardboard.
REQUIRED		LIGHT POLLUTION: Exterior lighting minimized, shielded, night sky compliant.
0	х	INNOVATION IN DESIGN:
63	210	TOTAL

140+ 70-139 0-69 EXCEEDS MINIMUM STANDARDS
MEETS MINIMUM STANDARDS
DOES NOT MEET MINIMUM STANDARDS

### Staff recommendations

- DOW compliance for wildlife migration/habitat
- Increase stream setback/wetland impacts
- Improve drainage plan to incorporate natural drainage/bioswale design.
- Provide public trailhead access.
- Reduce overall footprint
- Open space through conservation easement
- Demonstrate specific clustering strategies
- Reduce Parking Footprint
- Provide variety of housing types and possibly commercial uses at frontage
- Provide onsite inclusionary affordable housing beyond guidelines
- Incorporate playground/court/area within development
- Design pedestrian trail connecting clustered nodes within the development with the town.
- Incorporate xeric landscape design
- Solar Orientation= <75% of buildings are oriented to maximize solar orientation.</li>
- Renewable Energy=Estimated ~30KW solar system proposed, provide additional onsite renewable energy.

Inclusion of above items would increase score to 136 points

#### East End Case Study



# Pro-rated adjustment: East End:

Project came in at 103. Staff recommendations:

- Better location/screening for parking (2-4 points)
- Renewable Energy system(s) integrated (3-30 points)
- Private or Community garden area(s) (1 to 3 points)
- Covered bicycle parking (2 points)
- Diverse native landscape/xeriscape (1 to 3 points)

Inclusion of above items could increase SCI to 145.

# Pro-rated adjustment:

5-unit PUD: 78 Not Applicable points

88+ EXCEEDS MINIMUM STANDARDS

44-87 MEETS MINIMUM STANDARDS

0-43 DOES NOT MEET MINIMUM STANDARDS

# **Pritchard Scale**

You cannot rate greatness on a graph! Rip it out!



## Pritchard Scale



"You never change things by fighting the existing reality.

To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete."

#### -Buckminster Fuller



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