

# FOUR TYPES OF SUSTAINABILITY

## ENVIRONMENTAL



Focuses on protecting the resources and ecosystems that support life. It involves minimizing pollution, reducing waste, conserving energy, protecting biodiversity, and addressing issues such as deforestation, climate change, and water scarcity.

## SOCIAL



Promotes social equity, justice, and well-being within communities and societies. It includes ensuring access to human rights, quality education, healthcare, fair labor practices, and a decent standard of living. Social sustainability also fosters inclusive and diverse communities where people can thrive.

## ECONOMIC

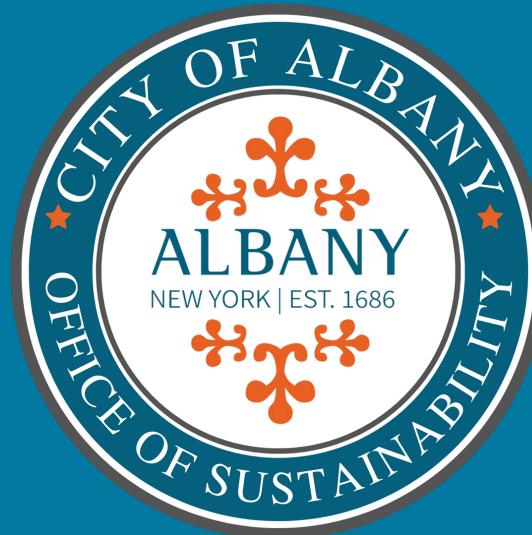


Aims to create economic systems that support long-term prosperity without depleting resources or causing negative social and environmental impacts. It involves responsible resource management, ethical business practices, and the development of resilient economies that can adapt to changes over time.

## CULTURAL



Preserves and promotes the continuation of cultural heritage, traditions, practices, and identities over time. It is crucial because culture plays a significant role in shaping societies, fostering identity, and contributing to the well-being of individuals and communities. Like other forms of sustainability, cultural sustainability recognizes the importance of balancing present needs with those of future generations.



# What is SUSTAINABILITY?



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# WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

Sustainability refers to the concept of meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It involves a balanced approach to economic, social, cultural, and environmental concerns to ensure the long-term well-being of both people and the planet.

**"Hope is not optimism. Optimism assumes the best, and assumes its inevitability, which leads to passivity, as do the pessimism and cynicism that assume the worst. Hope, like love, means taking risks and being vulnerable to the effects of loss. It means recognizing the uncertainty of the future and making a commitment to try to participate in shaping it."**

-Rebecca Solnit, Activist & Author

## KEY ISSUES IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Biodiversity & Species Loss

Climate Change & Energy

Environmental Justice

Land Use & Development

Human activities are driving the sixth mass extinction, necessitating urgent action to protect biodiversity and habitats, transition to fossil-free energy to mitigate climate change, address environmental justice concerns affecting marginalized communities, and carefully consider land use and development's impacts on ecosystems, as well as prioritize water quality for all life forms.

# Sustainable ALBANY



**Sustainability is a part of everything the City does -- from setting a goal of net zero emissions by 2050 to powering city operations with 100% renewable energy to planting 2,025 trees by 2025.**

## OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

THE CITY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK

### DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

THE CITY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK

The Department of General Services surpassed its goal of planting 2025 trees by 2025 and continues to plant and maintain more trees every year. DGS also manages services such as composting and recycling.

### DEPARTMENT OF WATER

THE CITY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK

The Albany Water Department uses advanced technology and environmental management strategies to protect our drinking water from source to tap. AWD also engineers sustainable stormwater solutions city-wide and manages the watersheds that protect our water supply.

For specific projects or opportunities to get involved, visit the City's website.

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