In 20 or 40 years what might the next generation wish we had done today?
Sustainability Commission

- reduce individual and collective ecological impacts
- improve the economy, security and sustainability of our community
- lead a public process to identify sustainability goals
- make recommendations to the mayor and the assembly
Sustainable (adj.)

1) able to be used without being completely used up or destroyed
2) involving methods that do not completely use up or destroy natural resources
3) able to last or continue for a long time

–Webster’s Dictionary
“Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the **sustained** yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.”

–Article 8, Alaska Constitution
What does “sustainability” mean to you?

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

*Brundtland Commission, 1987*
Basic Human Needs

Air

Water

Food

Shelter
Geography
Environmental Conditions Today and Future?

- unprecedented warming (and evaporation)
- increasing precipitation
- weather extremes
- increasing growing season
- continuing inversions in winter
Economic and Health Concerns Today and Future?

- Dirtiest winter air in the US
- Rising healthcare costs
- Unsafe drinking water
- Questionable food quality and security
- Above-average energy consumption and costs
Opportunities for Improvement

- Air and water quality?
- Food security and nutrition?
- Energy consumption and efficiency?
Clean air future?

- Air pollution at local and global scales
- Ideas and opportunities?
  - cleaner (and less) home heating
  - cleaner transportation
  - cleaner electrical generation
Clean water future?

- Above and underground water pollution
- FNSB Landfill – 4,298,123 gallons leachate recirculated (FY17)
- Ideas and opportunities?
  - maintain and monitor existing USTs
  - reduce, reuse and recycle goods
  - absorb stormwater runoff and vacuum sweep roads
  - reduce use of chemicals and find alternatives
Food future?

• 3-day food supply of expensive, questionable nutrition on the shelves, 95% non-local, and we bury 40%

• Ideas and opportunities?
  • buy bulk, local and/or harvest your own
  • compost food waste for soil additive
  • year-round hydroponic
  • commercial cold storage
Shelters of the future?

• In 2013, avg. annual energy cost for homes in FNSB was $8,110 (2.9X more than Anchorage and 3.8X national avg)

• Ideas and opportunities?
  • Raise energy efficiency of existing structures (1960-era home 25% savings w/boiler upgrade & 40% w/external retrofit)
  • Account for energy efficiency in appraisals
  • Incorporate local materials and clean, renewable energy sources (biomass, pellets, solar, etc.)
Waste in the Future?

• US v FNSB = 4.40 lbs. MSW/person/day v. 5.75 lbs.

• FNSB Landfill – 290 tons/day (FY17) and trending upward

• Ideas and opportunities?
  - buy food in bulk using reusable containers
  - turn food waste into compost, erosion barriers
  - collect and resell items and repurpose locally
Social Challenges

- Focus on visible and immediate threats
- Put unrealistic high value on the present
- Obtaining early, proactive civic engagement
- Disconnect from Nature and its services to us
Aspirations

- What are your aspirations for future generations?
- Future generations will breathe clean air
- Future generations will have clean water
- Future generations will eat local, healthy food
- Future generations will live in affordable, sustainable shelters
- Future generations will have work opportunities
What to do?

- What are you doing or are interested in doing?
- Engage in current approach to air and water pollution prevention
- Monitor my fuel storage tank for leaks
- Recycle; reuse what I can; donate used items
- Buy local and in bulk; grow food and eat smart
- Insulate home and shift to renewable energy
- Share hopes and dreams with others including mayor@fnsb.us and assembly@fnsb.us and the commission in upcoming meetings
April 11, 2018

Cold Climate Housing Research Center

cchrc.org
1000 Fairbanks St.
457-3454

6:30-8:30 PM
Free Tour at 6 PM

Questions? Contact bsmart@fnsb.us or brett.parks@fnsb-bc.us.

Please join us to share ideas and discuss issues important to you, such as:

Air
Food Security
Energy
Waste
Water

...and?

“Our mission is to help the Borough meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations.”
How big is your footprint?