In the winter of 2011 Imagine Humboldt held its first set of community meetings in seven locations: McKinleyville, Arcata, Hoopa, Eureka, Fortuna, Miranda and Garberville. At those meetings community members provided input on the following topics: Economy, Housing, Natural Resources, Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Community and Transportation. That input was transcribed verbatim and is organized in this document by topic and by community.
Legend

- **Purple-** Arcata High School, Arcata
  - Orange- Wharfinger Building, Eureka
- **Red-** McKinleyville High School, McKinleyville
  - Blue- South Fork High School, Miranda & Veteran’s Hall, Garberville
- **Brown-** Fortuna High School, Fortuna
  - Green- Hoopa High School, Hoopa

Communities
Healthy communities are well planned, mixed use and diverse. Generations are integrated and all feel welcome. Community members participate in civic life because their actions make a difference. We are concerned about homelessness and drug use and would like to help those in need. We should value and build upon our rich cultural heritage, working together to improve the future of the region.

Visions

- Compact mixed use communities
- A diverse economy with businesses and jobs integrated into neighborhoods to encourage community and ease transportation (encourage walking and bicycling)
- A healthy community has a range of age groups, income levels, and employment opportunities. We have to create opportunities for all.
- Small viable sense of community still prevails
- A community involved in planning
- We know our neighbors and we participate together as a community
  - More mixed use live/work/shop town centers
  - We have public spaces that generate community pride and activity.
  - Walkable Old Town and downtown (traffic minimized)
  - Old Town is like an Italian Piazza “every night is a party and everyone is invited”
  - More integration of kids/adults/elders
  - Nobody is invisible
  - This is a place where all people feel welcome and honored
  - Diverse peoples feel safe everywhere
  - More people in homes, not more homeless
  - Addicts have many choices for help
  - The mentally ill are taken care of
  - Mentally ill are treated with respect
  - Houseless people are part of the community
  - Lively, active participatory, diverse citizens who still wear many hats and remain civil despite disagreements: people deciding our own future
  - Equity in all community policy and planning processes.
  - Diverse, safe and open to all
  - Religious diversity
  - Power lunches are with the have-nots
  - Meth becomes extinct
  - Everyone has a safe and decent place to call home
- The entire county has given each other a hug and plays nice in the sandbox. Stop fighting! Take responsibility for actions
- **Keep it green and small**
Not much build up, like other communities
I love that I have no housing behind me and that I can walk easily to the movies or the community center.
All my neighbors know each other and I live close to all the resources I need.

Rural Community
Non-motorized trails to go everywhere. Cars will one day be obsolete. We need to be prepared.
Growing diversity of the population
I love what a small community we are: you can smile at strangers and not fear getting mugged
We need community wide clean up days, where community members volunteer to help clean up our streets and forests.
To make our county a better place we need to depend on one another.
I would like to see our community drug free.
I would like to see a huge reduction in the homeless people in our county over the next forty to fifty years.
Community Center, more opportunities for citizen involvement.

Strategies
- Empowerment of individuals to effect community decisions
- Participatory budgeting as in Sao Paulo in Brazil.
- Youth needs to be connected with jobs, elder community and workforce in order to heighten our youth’s horizons and experiences.
- We need to encourage intergenerational visioning and partnerships between our workforce and students
- Local connections among the young and old through stories
- If we want to keep families here, we can’t forget the health, safety and enrichment of children, especially in their teen years.
- Don’t forget us! (teens) We want stuff to do in our free time (other than walk around)
- Stable or decreasing population
  - Infill development should replace failed model of sprawl. Mixed-use, mixed income downtown, affordable housing= community
  - Create community centers and activities
  - Celebrate local history
  - Community engagement opportunities and promotion
- Keep lots large
- I would put more public services in rural areas

Sustainable development
- Election funding would come from people showing up
  - Universal sewer systems instead of septic tanks
  - Water systems for small communities
  - Coastal Humboldt: co-plan with Wiyot, Yurok and Hoopa Valley tribes
  - Humboldt County/Tribal collaborations
  - Imagine the quality of life you want for Hoopa Valley. Create a Quality of Life statement for Hoopa Valley. Start with the people, end with the local government.
  - Finish land use plan for Hoopa Valley.
  - Preserve Cultural Traditions (basketry/events)

Ideas
- Appropriate homeless services and support
- Adequate facilities exist to accommodate/house homeless.
- Dam in Blue Lake for public water
- Family campground
- Televisive education
- Save Ferndale and Old Town Fortuna
- There are several things that could boost Humboldt County’s atmosphere—encourage buildings, businesses and gardening that resemble old Town Eureka and the Arcata Plaza; encourage brickwork, Victorian style
accents, and intricate street ways to add character to the city as a whole: encourage small boutiques and shops to make the environment much more alive.

✓ I think that the visual appearance of certain streets, in particular 2nd and 3rd streets in Eureka, need to be improved while still keeping their distinct charm and character, so that more people will want to come and live in our one of a kind county.

✓ If we had a homeless shelter, then more people would be off of the streets, and if we had businesses donate food to these shelters we could get more people to stay at these shelters. If restaurants could donate food that was being thrown out, it would go to a good cause, and not be wasted.
  - Animal care
  - Recycling needs to be free and convenient.
  - Potable water (of the nation’s remaining clean waters systems, over 25% are located within Reservations.

Community “Feel”

- I enjoy that it is quiet in my neighborhood. I live in a Cul-de-Sac. My neighbors are very friendly, the neighborhood is right by an access to the forest for walks and it is close to my school and town.
- My neighborhood is close to my elementary school, hospital, fire department, and freeway. It’s by the bottoms so I can go on walks and runs in a nice place.
- I think people come here to get away from the big city feel, and come to where there is a small town feel.
  - I like that McKinleyville is somewhat small and has all of the basic necessities.
- Sense of community
- Realize rural areas have distinct needs and different visions
- I have lived here in Humboldt County my entire life and have always enjoyed being part of this small town community. I have witnessed firsthand just how community based our county is.

Suggestions for improvements

- I strongly believe our community should stay as clean as it is now, if not cleaner.
- I believe that cleaning up Broadway is a very important project that should be done over time.
- Broadway is the main street that tourists and people first see when they come to Eureka and it may drive some people away.
  - I’d like to see much of Old Town restored
  - This process is flawed. Hope it gets better
- I dislike the divisiveness of rural/urban
- Rural lacks access to government
  - Communities should be made aware of the shared history and plural identity. Understanding is essential for growth to occur.

Likes

- All in all I like to walk around Arcata because it is clean and beautiful looking.
- My favorite neighborhood is my neighborhood in downtown Arcata because all the houses are pretty and work well together. Also, the streets are usually pretty green and everyone has nice lawns which are nice to look at.
- The plaza is one of my favorite places; it feels local and you can always seem to run into a friend there. The grass is always beautiful and the trees are nice and big.
- I like how the city is so small that you know everyone in it
- I like HealthSport and the Community Center because there is always a lot of people there and activities to do and it's social and fun...also the park near there is really family friendly.
- I love that all of the shops surrounding the plaza are local, it wouldn’t be the same if they weren’t.
Transportation
We have a desire for more convenient and accessible public transportation. We value safe bicycle and walking trails/sidewalks and would like to see more of them interconnected throughout the county. We support a wide range of transportation options for moving people and goods and believe they should be planned in a coordinated manner.

Visions
- Great bus service –7 days from Garberville to Trinidad
- An efficient transportation system that eliminates the need for individual “autos” except for hauling materials.
- Transit and cycling as primary forms of transportation in urban areas.
- Public transit as the #1 mode of travel
- On-demand mini-bus service from Orick to Garberville (with call points in between)
- Extended bus routes (but don’t widen the highway)
- To have a well connected multi-modal transportation system that offers convenient alternatives to single occupancy automobiles.
  - Sheltered bus/transit stations.
  - Usable public transit for all ages and physical fitness’s.
  - Late night bus to take night-lifers home safely
  - Full Sunday public transit
  - More frequent bus service and rapid
  - Weekend transportation: bus, vans, etc.
  - Bus, rapid transit, and/or light rail connecting regions.
  - More bus stops
  - Public: better buses, add train
  - Stop dependence on foreign oil
  - Trains everywhere
  - Some form of light rail
  - Efficient and constant public transport alternative plus slow streets, bike paths, walking routes.
  - Sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes on main roads for safer, non-motorized travel (including horses)
  - Become leaders in developing non-polluting, energy-efficient transportation technology and systems.
- Well maintained roads
- World class trail system
- Transportation is key to the future-getting to town (fossil fuels will not work)
- More buses more of the time, more places, less money
- Better public transportation system
  - Free transportation use, local or county tax base to operate free to the public

Strategies
- Plan roads first then allow the building to begin
- Develop alternate avenues for exit and entrance to Humboldt County—planes, trains, buses, etc.
- Incorporate alternative transport into developing grids
- Build more road= more jobs

Moving People
- I would change the types of transportation available. If there were commuter trains or a trolley, Humboldt would be much more connected and people from different areas would mingle more
- Create effective public transportation: electric busses, solar electric charging stations all over.
- We need to put more money into public transportation. We need more bus routes and buses. They should run every day.
• There needs to be more buses traveling at more times, and maybe trains from town to town.
  ➢ Expanded bus service: people don’t support it so no service on weekends or after 9:00pm
  ➢ The local bus service I haven’t used, but I have used the So. Humboldt No. Humboldt Transit. The local bus
    service needs to run late the same days the library is open late.
  ➢ Less dependence on oil through walking and biking trails and expanding major portions of trails from town
    outward.
  ✔ Better roads, brings visitors in and allow them out

Moving Goods and Services
  ❖ Open our roads for all truck sizes=jobs
  ❖ Maintain what we have
  ❖ Develop our port for short sea shipping so we can decrease congestion/pollution on roads.
  ❖ There would need to be a larger airport if more people populate the area in the future.
  ➢ Leave Richardson Grove alone
  ✔ Improved highway infrastructure to connect Humboldt Co. to business and industry and for tourism.
    o Public transportation that is regular and reliable would be essential to maintaining and creating community
      and economic development.

Built Environment:
• Mixed use development with transit hubs and safe walking and bicycling
• No expansion of paved roads. Increased people movement accommodated by public transportation, biking
  and walking.
• Trail system through the entire county
  ▪ Interconnected pedestrian and bicycle networks
  ▪ Finish the coastal trails
  ▪ Bike lanes, trails and affordable transit (and reliable)
  ▪ Arcata-Eureka multi-use trail
  ▪ Safe Eureka-Arcata bike transportation option
  ❖ Sidewalks should be safe, pleasurable, and shorter routes to places. These three items are not true for
    McKinleyville
  ❖ Put in more sidewalks, bike trails transportation and things to do.
  ❖ There needs to be sidewalks on School Road. Many people walk this road to come into town and to access
    the Hammond Trail at the bottom of the road. They are forced to walk in ditches and drainage pipes, this is a
    danger to both drivers and pedestrians.
  ❖ We need more bicycle routes and walkways so we do not have to walk in the street.
  ➢ Intermodal connections geared to tourism
  ➢ Bicycle paths
  ➢ Unbroken large level trails, integrity of forests
  ➢ I am not excited about a cross-country trail without a service organization backing it up.
  ➢ Not enough bike trails/lanes, walking, alternative fueled buses etc.
  ➢ Connecting trails
  ➢ Develop non-motorized trails: bikes, pedestrians, etc.
  ➢ We need non-motorized trails North-South and East-West. Convert NCRA corridor “rails to trails” and another
    along So. Fork Eel River, others to the Pacific Ocean.
  ➢ Caltrans should use a signal option for Richardson Grove
    o Safe lighted sidewalks
    o Sidewalks

Policies
• More transportation options with good connectivity
  ▪ Many choices
Prioritization of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in town centers and to key destinations

- Maintain a functional rail right-of-way for transportation, including Rail with Trail options
  - Local government-integrated planning process incorporating various aspects of community needs and emergency services should be integrated with the transportation discussion.
  - The way we organize our decision making for change- more open and inclusive so there are no surprises.
  - Transportation supports local community growth- linking is integral to the region.
  - Cooperation from CalTrans and emergency services
  - Government responsive to the people—all the extra input
    - Access for those with limited mobility

Ideas

- A commuter train from Trinidad to Scotia
- I would incorporate a fast train system so that people could travel to San Francisco or other cities more quickly.
  - A gigantic umbrella to cover the roads when it’s raining
  - Freeway moved off of 4th and 5th to south of Eureka/Cutten.
  - Trikes for seniors!
  - Extend Waterfront Drive through to Herrick
  - Allow railroads to operate
- We need to put in overpasses between Arcata and Eureka on the 101.
- Train to the Bay Area
  - Roundabout by Clendenens
  - Agree with comment of expanded high-speed rail
  - Bring trains back
  - Year round alternative to 101. Viable rail-line for commerce.
  - Connect Humboldt Co. to industrial centers via railroad
  - Bring trains back and get rid of semi-trucks
  - Develop Rohnerville airport as fully functioning transportation center—a true regional air-link (unlike Arcata-Eureka)
  - Bring back a trolley system of boats with sails
  - Hwy 36- Direct link to I-5 and hi-speed rail
    - Highway 96 from Willow Creek to Somes Bar safe for bikes and pedestrians.

Thoughts/Concerns

- A better bus program would be very beneficial financially and socially for people (from Trinidad and Westhaven)
- I can drive but gas prices are very expensive
- We have a high percent of people who can’t drive
- We need methods of getting in and out of the county
- No private gasoline powered cars allowed except for handicapped and elderly
  - Stop CalTrans in Richardson Grove
  - The county lives by the automobiles. What is going to be done to make this use easier?
  - No mega-trucks
- We need less noise and traffic
- Not relying on CalTrans telling people where to do things, no expanding the roads (which attracts people)
- There are not transportation options for youth
  - Don’t widen Richardson’s Grove
  - Highway 96 through Hoopa Valley, automobile chute, Pedestrian shoot, bisected community unsafe for living things. Solution to this could fix other problems
We value our rural lifestyle and want a variety of affordable housing options and communities that retain that feel. We support the development of all types of housing—apartments, condos, single family residences—both in town and in rural settings. We want our communities well planned with homes having easy access to shopping, services and jobs. We are concerned about negative effects of development on our environment including water availability and wastewater management issues.

Visions:

- I like how there aren’t a lot of houses. I don’t even live in a neighborhood, and every house has at least a few acres of land and I enjoy not seeing my neighbors out of my windows.
- I love my neighborhood, its close to everything. I am in walking distance of most things I need (i.e. food, clothes, school) It’s clean, family friendly, great location, great neighbors.
- I would hate to come back here in forty years and see huge sky scrapers on the beaches and large development with less trees.
- Open space for public use
- No homelessness
- Everyone has a home, even those who don’t want one.
- Affordable housing available
- Rent control; just-cause eviction; more cooperatively owned housing; affordable home ownership.
- Everyone is housed! In some kind of abode they can afford.
  ❖ I want my kids to be able to afford to live here without government subsidy
  ❖ Developers who care what people want to live in and can afford to buy.
  ➢ Rural lifestyle
  ➢ Living on the land
  ➢ I imagine Humboldt with Housing not much different than it is now. Some have close neighbors and others have lots of space. I enjoy it that way. I think it is good to get to know your neighbors because it draws you closer to the community, but at the same time you can enjoy your area.
  ➢ Housing with the ability to grow a garden
  ➢ I hope with everything in me that Humboldt stays a rural town. Farms and ranches and places for small kids to play in the mud—that’s what we need. The world doesn’t need another concrete jungle.
  ➢ Housing achievable at the family level

Housing Types

- All new housing needs to be energy efficient and be part of food production..
- Diversity of housing options (small, large, in-town, rural etc)
- Multi-story, multi-use buildings for artist community housing/studio space
- More affordable housing for college students
  ➢ Empty buildings in Eureka turned into affordable artists’ studios/apartments
  ➢ Create community housing to fit all need levels—with particular emphasis on energy efficient and efficient living spaces filled with natural light and natural surroundings.
  ➢ Affordable housing for all
  ➢ Need more affordable choices
  ❖ Promote “small house” concept with solar/energy efficiency and public plan and gardening spaces.
  ❖ Houses are nice and well built
  ❖ Safe and affordable senior housing
  ❖ Lots of choices for everyone—small lots, big lots, small houses etc.
  ❖ Mixed housing—apartments in with houses, condos, and businesses. Nice apartments for people that do not need/want a house.
  ❖ Affordable housing.
  ❖ Real Affordable housing
Support mixed use housing, including work-live housing (promotes a 24/7 community); co-housing (promotes extended families); and group-housing for seniors and singles.

- Mother in law units
- Higher number of smaller units
- Smaller, energy efficient homes
  - Build homes with the thought that you will age, so think what will work best for the long run.
  - Multifamily dwellings. Vertical growth
  - Affordable housing in Hoopa and Orleans

Community Development

- Mixed use community clusters for youth, elders, and ethnic communities to work, recreate and play.
- All age housing development
- Economically mixed neighborhoods—single family and multi-family, low income and high income—integrated.
  - Need compact, higher density development in the urban core. No large residential subdivisions in unincorporated [areas].
  - Clustered, well planned to preserve rural feel and open space.
- Cluster housing—integrate business with residential
- Smaller houses with more open space—developments centered around gardens (for in-town development)
- Houses have a lot of land
- Intentional communities planned around family growth and designed in concentric circles.
- Rural environments evolving in sound ecological way: adequate water, CalTrans involved with healthy rural roads.
- Communities centered around services, work, parks, recreation and community centers linked by multi-use trails.
- The more recent housing that has been built is separated from the city. That includes being separated from businesses and entertainment. Fortuna’s entertainment is located in one area, Main Street, which is a rather far walking distance.
- Planned unit developments
  - Family/outdoor facilities

Concerns

- Provide more areas for single home building and multiple-unit home building
  - End homelessness
  - Stop single room occupancy’s—landlords charge too much
  - Affordable housing for young people, seniors, everyone
  - Don’t cram us all into small spaces
  - I would make more housing for homeless available so they aren’t out in our streets.
- Build on family land—land is too expensive for young people—how do we make affordable housing for kids
- Water limitations, water will be an issue
  - No more septic systems!

Planning and policies

- Zoning that has facilitated the use of existing housing to meet population needs, rather than new developments.
- Affordable housing with inclusionary zoning
  - Preservation of rural land and urban open areas by redevelopment of existing low-density housing, not infill.
  - Begin in-fill development now as resources deplete and every measurable category of the economy and society decline.
• Require large developments to prove they contribute more the local economy than they extract in public subsidies.
• Allow developers to build
• Require/codify low-impact rural development, building and living.
• Require/codify water capacity studies before permits.
• Better relationship between housing and jobs

❖ Government out of the way of permits
❖ Figure the County capacity for housing and spread it over the next 40 years (not over the next 5 years)
  ➢ Watershed planning model- citizens come together
  ➢ Looking at the geology of the Mattole and planning along watersheds
  ➢ State and local planners permit rural houses
  ➢ Humboldt County Planning Department needs overhauled. It’s too unresponsive, bureaucratic, self-serving and unhelpful.
  ➢ Stop paving now, dirt roads slow people down, and can be more eco-sound
  ➢ Grandfathered permits on rural dwellings.
  ✓ Need rezoning to allow more residential development
  ✓ Plan with purpose, but respect property rights.
• Enforce building codes including in rural parts of the county, to protect water quality, soil.
• Building codes to require “Permaculture” systems in all new structures, green building

Other Thoughts
• Support for elders to age in place
• People able to live at home (with assisted technologies) into their 90’s and fewer nursing homes.
  ▪ Social enterprises have revitalized old homes and neighborhoods to be healing for the residents, the environment and the community.
  ▪ Permanent supportive living programs across country for chronically homeless
  ▪ Building more houses isn’t the only way to make sure all are housed.
  ✓ How about for people who can’t afford fans and air conditioning they should make more houses more insulated.
  ✓ Reduce global population growth to allow sustainability of these, our natural resources

Fishing and Forestry
We value sustainable utilization of our resources—both fish and trees.

Vision
 o Extensive public forests and more trees everywhere to soak up CO₂
 o I hope in the future the fishing industry has recovered to a sustainable level.
 o I hope to see fishing (oyster/crab etc.) happening by local fishermen.
 o An expanded and working fishing and recreation marina and fisherman’s marketplace
  ▪ Logging is a sustainable crop
  ▪ Protection for all old growth forests here in 2011 and sustainable working forest management in other 2011 forests: 2050 will have at least as extensive a forest area as 2011
  ▪ Community forests for sustainable timber harvest and recreation
  ▪ Eureka community forest with sustainable harvest plans
  ▪ Freshwater and saltwater aquaculture is on the Samoa Peninsula
  ▪ Bring back fishing industry
  ▪ Aquaculture industry/jobs have grown by 5X
  ▪ Wild Coho! Wild Chinook! Whatever it takes to bring them back!
  ▪ Sustainable forestry
  ▪ Sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries
Keep the Redwoods!
A community forest in McKinleyville (funded by sustainable logging like in Arcata)
Bring back the salmon
Maintain resources lands for timber and agricultural production, wildlife habitat, and to ensure healthy river systems.
☑ I would like to see the fishing and seafood business come back and expand in Humboldt
☑ I think there is an urgent need to preserve the well-being of our fisheries.
☑ Greener. No subsidies. Give us a real port.
  ○ USFS=Dept of Ag. Needs to be accountable to local community. Community forest partnerships. TRIBAL co-management with USFS.

Strategy
- Allow lumber company to operate
- Log and replant fire areas, don’t leave to burn again
- Clean water--less regulatory layers ($) for small timber growers
- Protect water quality for healthy fish
- Magnet for sustainably minded agriculture and forestry
- We find ways to preserve our natural resources and provide jobs.
- Incentives provided to next generations to sustainably develop agriculture, forest and fishery industries.
☑ Why not reduce fishing by 90%. For Example instead of 60 tons of fish, why not 5 tons per 6 months?
☑ Dredge Humboldt Bay for bigger industry potential.
☑ Port with link to rail-line
  ○ Remove dams, restore fish habitat, protect water rights

Thoughts/Concerns:
☑ The logging industry in Fortuna is now obsolete, leaving an abandoned mill yard to remind the community of what used to be.
  ○ We must prepare for the end of the timber-led economy

Energy
We recognize the need to become more self-sufficient and increase utilization of renewable energy and believe we have the capacity to develop those resources in our region. “Going Green” could be a strategic marketing decision for the area.

Vision Statements
- Zero waste, especially stop trucking waste out of the County: install food waste bio-digester and gasifier.
- Low Impact
- We could all reduce our carbon emissions if we wanted to, and a green community is one of the most important things.
- Relying on our local renewable energy sources.
- Rich lives lived with low environmental/energy impacts.
- There should be fewer reasons to drive cars.
- Community owned renewable energy generation. No PG&E
- I love the fact that Arcata takes being green very seriously
- Humboldt County running exclusively on local renewable energy.
- Less dependence on gas for transportation
- Conserve, use less, want less
- Self-sufficient leader in green industry
- Diversity- we produce all we need (local and renewable)
- Diversity and choices: local renewable energy sources, fuel choices for transportation
We produce all that we need here.
Rely on green power
Humboldt County is exporting clean energy
Gas will be gone and we will either be traveling shorter distances or we will have to allow and support new energies.
I would like to see Humboldt County go green. Let’s stop wasting resources and start using the resources available to us that are reusable. There are always different methods other than burning coal. We have a vast majority of beautiful waters that are available for tidal sources of energy. Anything but wasting resources that we have been given by nature.
Let’s become a leader in developing and using non-polluting renewable energy and associated technology.
Limit demand-draw energy from appropriate sources.
Decreasing our use of energy is all important as the large projects displayed here (i.e. more education).
Less dependence on fossil fuels.
Self-sufficient energy
I imagine that in the future, Humboldt could be a kind of “green” mecca. All of the County’s power would come from alternative energy sources.
With global warming and energy becoming of greater concern with every passing year, Humboldt should lead the way in developing or us

Ideas for conserving energy
- HSU has world-renowned reputation for appropriate technology education.
- Hydrogen fuel stations and hydrogen cars.
- There are many environmental opportunities, but there needs to be more renewable jobs
  - Community grants for resident and business green energy conversion
  - Use Eureka’s $150,000 funding of the Chamber of Commerce for a street sweeper so bikes can ride safely.
  - Employer bike to work incentive program
  - Reduce huge truck use (pick-ups, etc.) through taxes/fees to preserve air quality
  - Use all this hot air to heat government buildings
- There should be a light rail system, or some such form of public transport that is run entirely by clean energy.
- Create county wide subsidy program for homeowners to retrofit with “green” appliances, solar panels, rainwater catchment, etc.
- They could bring back the electric car, or have a vehicle operate on air.

Energy and the Economy
- Energy is used sustainably and is viable economic generator—providing good jobs
- Look into more viable energy uses- support the research (local) and education behind it.
  - Develop niche industries—organic farming—restore streams and forests—alternative energy
  - “Green” technology is a field with guaranteed growth at state, federal and international levels. It’s also one of the few areas we possess a complete advantage in.
  - Creating a wind mill or solar panel manufacturing industry would allow Fortuna to export a product that would be used to help the environment.

Energy Creation
- Renewable energy resources especially wave energy
  - 100 MW wind farm on Wildcat Ridge and along Humboldt Bay.
  - Solar --even in Humboldt we can do it
  - Solar roofing and siding, community solar chargers,
  - Support biomass energy production as part of restoration forestry in the region.
  - Wave energy should be included as a viable energy source.
  - Drill for oil. Encourage solar—it’s great. Full electric cars, more electric car charging stations.
  - Oil drilling off the coast, nuclear plant for energy
- WReal solutions not pie in the sky like wind/solar, in whose back yard?
- Utilize windmills.
- We have wind farms for energy
- Wind power and birds, wave power and whales, wood heating and old growth!
- Continue/increase exploration of alternative energy and conservation.
  - Solar
  - Renewable energy
  - All forms of sustainable eco-friendly energy: solar, hydro, geo thermal, wave, biomass, wind, etc.
  - Invest in renewable energies: solar, tidal, wind
  - Solar!!
  - Houses that are solar powered and smaller with a lot of storage.
  - Turning the freeways and highways into solar panels creating lots of energy.
  - Expand electricity generation opportunities without oil!
  - Develop residence based energy supply-small wind units, small solar units
  - Nuclear power could be one way to supply energy, as long as the waste is disposed of properly.
  - If we could harness the force of the ocean’s waves and convert it into clean renewable energy, Humboldt would be leading the way to a green revolution in California.
    - Hog Fuel Plant is a bad idea for Hoopa Valley even if you call it biomass. Too much air and water pollution; requires too many trucks with noise and diesel fumes. Wrong scale in every way.
    - Hydropower in Supply Creek
    - Gyms/exercise machines hook up to dynamo/produce electricity.
    - Solar in all parts of the county.
    - Look at pelletizing “excess biomass” for lower impact wood stoves.

Energy Policy and development

- Zero-net energy housing as standard
- All buildings constructed after 2020 will be net energy producers
- Focus on walkable, infill growth to accommodate bikes and pedestrians
- Solar energy requirement for new building projects-including renovations
- Government entities encourage green place in policy
- I’d like to see all of the local school buses using biofuel
- Using more recycled things, or other things than gas to run our cars, buses etc.

Other

- Carbon footprint
- Global warming might force people who currently live other places here

Economy

We value both blue collar and white collar jobs and believe a diverse economy is critical. Industry should complement our regional strengths including natural resources and provide living wage jobs. Entrepreneurship should be encouraged and small business supported by our infrastructure including transportation and telecommunications. We are concerned that regulations, at both the local and state levels are standing in the way of business development. While we appreciate local businesses and their unique offerings, we are concerned that people are still leaving the area to shop.

Visions:

- Healthy Economies without cheap plastic (or whatever synthetic is), disposable crap
- Integration of youth into community...Safe-productive—educational
- Sustainable forestry, fisheries, and local agriculture
- All farming, forestry, production, manufacturing done without toxic chemicals
- Alternatives to capital intensive economy
More people telecommute
Wages that can actually support families
Encourage others to be successful “cooperative capitalism”
Post capitalist economy.
Less isolated, more integrated into cutting edge trends
Knowledge and other high-value jobs are plentiful
Economy that caters to mothers
Home grown social businesses are a model for the country
Urban places with urban jobs; rural places with rural jobs; infrastructure to support choice in work and work locations (i.e. good high-tech support, good resource-job infrastructure too)
We are just a star of the path to the future—the teenagers will refine
Long term sustainability, incorporate economy (jobs) and environment (protection) and social equity!

- Economy based on what our bioregion best supports—high quality timber, fish, organic agriculture, tourism, natural resources management, etc.
- I want my son to be able to earn a decent living.
  - Sustainable economy based on alternative energy
  - Innovative, entrepreneurial spirit
  - Many families move here because it is a good safe place to raise children, and that is exactly the reputation we need to enforce. In order to attract young families we must have jobs available to the parents.
    - Real economic development must be based on the principle of invigorating new and expanded infrastructure and not relying on outside support/businesses.

Types of industries/companies:
- Humboldt engineered green technologies providing good green jobs
- Major internet-based business companies
  - Value-added industries needed
  - Industries that do not pollute
  - Clean high paying industries
  - Cottage industry
  - No big businesses, no moving center
  - More small business diversity. Non-centralized cottage industry, including marijuana
  - Diversification
    - I’d like to see a portfolio of industries that complement and preserve our area’s unique character: agriculture, horticulture, and high-tech
  - Greater tourism
  - Bring back real industries (not just service and tourism)
- Develop and attract information-based industry
  - Develop eco-tourism: rafting, kayaking, hiking, biking-restore streams, attract fishermen
  - Small businesses
  - Small local businesses! Starbucks and Home Depot don’t buy ads in our high school yearbooks or join boosters.
  - Recognize and support small businesses as “development”
  - More and better country stores
  - Recognize the cannabis economy and contribution
  - Economic Development-Cottage industry community advisory group for So. Hum.
  - Ecotourism could be a money maker. Ziplines and canopy exploration both.
  - Emphasize our most unique asset—make Humboldt County the ecotourism capital of the US—we have what no one else has---let’s showcase it!
  - Light to medium industry that’s sustainable
  - Industrializing
- Alternative industries
Jobs:
• It’s hard to get a job in Arcata. Many are family run businesses that do not hire outside their family.
• There is no work, no new businesses, and no expansion for more job opportunities, especially in Arcata!! Perhaps allow franchises in the area.
• In the future I hope there are plenty of sustainable, living wage jobs and people feel good about their work.
• More jobs
• Have healthy economy- jobs and all other things will follow
• Majority of workers represented by Unions
• We [should] have a wide variety of jobs—not all our eggs in one or even several baskets
• Living wage jobs
  ▪ High quality knowledge-based jobs with abundant opportunities locally to get the education necessary to support them.
  ▪ Jobs and career options—multiple industries/sectors to work in
  ▪ Blend of technical service, “white” and “blue” collar jobs
  ▪ Living wage jobs (3 people said this)
  ▪ Industries and employers that support families (i.e. paid maternity leave, children in the workplace)
  ▪ Living wage jobs for all education levels
  ▪ Well paying blue collar jobs
  ❖ Jobs (2 people said this)
  ❖ Jobs will make everything else possible
✓ We need to give the working class an opportunity to return to work by providing new job opportunities that will remain in high demand for years to come.
✓ In Humboldt we lack career jobs, we definitely need more jobs if we expect people to join our community.
✓ There is a serious lack of job opportunities in Fortuna
✓ There need to be major improvements made to the job market.

Strategies:
• Incentivize doctors and nurses to locate here by reducing regulation and restrictions on their businesses.
• State and community banks that give the interest back to the state and community.
  ➢ Our water resources are used to export food to the world
  ➢ Encourage businesses
  ➢ Bring broadband to all—work at home with your computer!
  ➢ Support for mobile food vendors
  ➢ Encourage and support innovation and entrepreneurship
  ➢ Government and employers utilize local food and products
  ➢ Develop the port
  ❖ Make it attractive to do business here.
  ❖ Maintain current infrastructure
  ❖ Natural resources are jobs in the future.
  ❖ Teach skills so individuals can create their own jobs and build businesses
  ❖ Encourage small business entrepreneurship
  ➢ there are hundreds of little woodshops- build a niche economy
✓ I think that the best, most efficient way to increase job opportunities here would be to have another large company come in and take the place of PALCO.
✓ County wide internet=county wide job sites
✓ It does not seem likely that marijuana will become less present in the economy of Humboldt. People need to start focusing less of getting rid of marijuana and focus more on coming up with a new thrilling attraction that will make Humboldt County seem more alluring. Bringing back the railroad track and trains, offering more
tours and recreational activities, and creating more unique small businesses could all attract more attention than the marijuana, just in a more positive light.

- Restoring the tracks would provide many jobs and help boost the economy. Strains could bring in many tourists and illuminate the wonderful aspects of Humboldt.
- We need to stimulate the economy somehow—we need to figure out something we have to offer. We should restart the train system since we already have the train track to transport things.
- I propose that Fortuna develops another source of industry, or build upon an already successful one, which would create more jobs for our citizens.
- Business/jobs need shipping and internet. Fix roads and high-speed internet
- Support entrepreneurs through training—in the community and high schools
- Local government grants to support entrepreneurs start up new businesses
  - Localize

Ideas:
- Large museum on waterfront—combine smaller ones. Logging history.
  - Trademark Humboldt, expand Humboldt Made campaign
  - Establish own regional bank to issue credit.
  - Funds available for young folks having resources to purchase equipment to get into business
  - Eco-tourism could be a money maker. Ziplines and canopy exploration both.
  - Use all this hot air to heat government buildings

Regulatory:
- Provide more opportunity for organic growth of business and industry with less regulation and nitpicking by city and county staff.
  - Limit Coastal Commission authority
  - Disband Coastal Commission. We are the only state that has it. Making money
  - Lower taxes, less social (fee) giveaways
  - Regulations are stringent enough but highly streamlined (vision)
- Too much government imposed limits, red tape, $$
- Stop over regulating

Shopping
- Franchises such as WalMart and Home Depot are not necessary in our community; people get by fine without them.
- I love that all of the shops surrounding the plaza are local, it wouldn’t be the same if they weren’t.
- I like that there are local businesses; they supply everything I need.
- I like that there are good local businesses. Lots of places will hire younger people that are in college or high school. There are a lot of nice places to work that do not require hard labor.
  - No Home Depot
  - No WalMart
  - Yes big box. Consumer choice/options
  - Corporate chain stores
- To keep money circulating in Humboldt County we need to add more popular shopping, which will prevent people from going out of town to buy their clothes and any other related necessities.
- If a larger variety of more popular stores were offered in Humboldt, it would prevent families from traveling down south to purchase clothes, technology and other supplies. This would increase the number of people and amount of money coming into Humboldt.
- People do not spend their money locally on things like clothes and home goods. When money is spent within our county, more of the money goes to improvements within our county.
- Buy local x2
Marijuana:
- Marijuana legalization and the end of indoor growing.
  - Medical marijuana is agriculture
  - Real analysis of marijuana cultivation/sales
- I dislike the marijuana economy
- Recognize the cannabis economy and contribution
  - No marijuana economy!
  - Preempt marijuana legalization leading to monocrops/corporate pot growing which will destroy biodiversity, water quality habitats.
  - County zoning/regulations to prevent adverse environmental impacts of large marijuana cultivation.

Challenges/concerns:
- Targets of Opportunity are dated…are the conclusions still valid?
- No more corporations, big box or chain stores—
  - Since the closure of the mill, the economy around here has gone downhill. The failure of the logging industry has affected more than just the loggers. Humboldt needs an industry that is sustainable and prosperous.
  - I hope I don’t see the demolition of the next great economic idea—it was 50 years ago that the pulp mills were built.

Agriculture
Residents value locally grown food and would like to have greater access to it. Agricultural and timber lands should be preserved and available for farming for future generations.

Visions:
- I want to see local agriculture supply most of our food.
- A market in every neighborhood that stock local produce.
- Increased availability of local food and products
- Affordable locally-grown food available in every neighborhood
- Thriving farmer’s markets (extend Sunday to enable more farmers to bring their products to the market)
- I like the farmers market
- Ag. land is preserved and productive sustainably
- A thriving agriculture industry
- Regional self sufficiency: food, fiber, shelter, and power
  - Proliferation of local food economy
  - Public common space in cities and communities for community gardens
  - Strong farm trail tourism program
  - Immigrant agriculture workers are treated with respect, no more slave labor!
  - Agricultural space is available to community groups, CSAs etc.
- We need more food selection
- Affordable, economically-viable resource lands for family farms and community forestry.
- A farm in the middle of a multi-age development
  - Rely less on distant places for food-goods needed come by sea vs roads
    - Sustainable and non-threatening to nearby community
    - Grow Food

Strategies
- Preservation of local farm and rangeland
- I would like to see the bottoms and farming preserved
- **We need to preserve our fertile agricultural lands**
  - Sourcing food from local sources should be a goal of public institutions, schools, and government.
  - Preserve farmland from development
  - Capacity for Native American groups to access their food sources is increased
  - Maintain our county’s agricultural and timber resource base. Move towards restorative practices.
  - Farmland that young farmers can afford to buy for farming
  - Tax breaks for new farmers starting out.
  - Provide tax incentives to farmers to preserve agriculture since state incentives are likely to end.
  - Preserve our prime soils
  - Organic
  - **Organic agriculture and flower industry to keep our waters safe**
  - Increase local food production
  - We should investigate becoming a no-GMO county as a branding mechanism for Humboldt agriculture/dairy. Do we even have much GMO?
  - We need to get in deeper touch with our agricultural side, and insist in the growing of organic foods for the market.
    - Use more locally grown organic product at Ray’s
    - Hoopa used to be self-sufficient in food. More than 70% of existing Ag. land has lareday been destroyed. Save what is left.
    - No pesticides

**Ideas:**
- School gardens
- A grain mill on the river
  - CSAs Rock
  - More farmers’ markets

**Natural Environment**
We value our clean water, healthy forests and beaches and want to see our beautiful natural environment and our ability to enjoy it preserved for the future. We need to work together to keep our county clean and through a combination of protection and education we can keep what we enjoy now.

**Vision**
- Ag and forest land have not shrunk.
- Zero waste.
  - Small compact communities.
  - Preserved natural resources.
  - We still have open spaces
    - I want to be able to see as many trees from town as I see now.
    - Trails and open space close and accessible to population centers.
    - Community forests and gardens in all of our communities.
    - Sustainably logged community forests for McKinleyville and Eureka.
    - Our springs can reach our rivers.
    - Clean waters
    - Clean rivers
  - Wild salmon in healthy rivers. Kids who know what they are and how to care for them
    - I want my grandchildren to be able to catch and eat local fish.
    - Natural environment is valued for positive impacts to social cohesion, health when planning decisions are made.
    - I can still run my dogs on the beach.
More trails that are near where we live so we don’t need to drive so far to hike.
Redwoods are a part of Humboldt County’s identity.

- Ganja-topia – Emerald City (So. Hum.). The outdoor capital of the world!
- The proximity to and the stewardship of the Redwood trees and its environment-Ecotopia forever!
- Redwood hikes and walks- being one with nature

- In forty to fifty years I would love to see some of Humboldt’s world know beauty intact.
- Natural Environment to me is one of the most important things in this world, less waste and more clean water.
- The topography of Humboldt County already makes it a very desirable location to live since it resides along the beautiful Pacific Coast and contains over forty percent of all the old growth Coast Redwood forests. People often come to Humboldt to enjoy aspects of living in a rural area.
- People who stay or return do so because of those things that make us unique-Principal among these is our natural environment. We are not going to out-cosmopolitan the Bay Area.
- Humboldt County is a great place to be raised. It’s close to natural rivers and streams, giant redwoods and close-knit communities.
  - Healthier salmon.

Strategies

- Some great outdoor resources that we should preserve: Redwoods, beaches, hiking trails.
- Save as much as our natural environment as possible because it’s who we are.
- Protect and increase wilderness areas.
  - Conserve natural resources through compact development. No urban sprawl. No large subdivisions outside cities.
  - Compact development and redevelopment rather than new development.
  - Protect same old growth areas as 2011. Sustainable working forests on more or less the same areas as 2011.
  - An open space district to support municipalities in preserving and maintaining open space.
  - Don’t approve large development projects that can’t mitigate their impacts (Marina Center-traffic).
- Maintain what we have-keep open spaces open
- Increase watershed and water quality awareness and education
- More focus on water quality protection, clean beaches and health fish.
- Emphasize our most unique asset- make Humboldt County the ecotourism capital of the U.S.- we have what no one else has- let’s showcase it! We need to make it easy to enjoy our natural beauty. There’s no non-motorized trunk lines North/South and East/West
- Educate children on conservation and preservation of nature. Work to restore the environment to its natural state.
- Preserve ag and open space.
- More education
- I work for the CCC-Try to try to offer education to young adults keep the forests.
- Educate the young about the importance of our environment.
- Rivers and tributaries need to be cleaned up and water flow restored.
- Improve the health of our rivers.
- Keep the waters clean.
- Bring the old growth forests back!
  - Bring the salmon back! And other native species
- Defend the Trinity River from agricultural diversions.
- Defend the rivers/watersheds from any future ideas of corporatization of water.
- Subsidize county-wide recycling.
- Future planning: plan with climate change in mind.
- Coastal county government needs to step up to demand guaranteed flows in the Klamath River.
Ideas

- I would like to see more city-owned forests and less environmental regulations so the land can be used by the public and not just wasted being kept away from use.
- I would like to see more recycling cans around the town.
- All of the cities/towns in Humboldt should have curbside recycling like Arcata. It will make it easier for people to recycle and help the environment.
  - Bring back the salmon.
  - Forests and open spaces on same extents of land as 2011. That means denser urban development to avoid sprawl.
  - An open space district with public access and ranchlands.
  - Prohibit vehicles on Clam Beach-conserve the Snowy Plover.
  - Community forest between McKinleyville and Fieldbrook
  - I would put more recycling cans around the town.
  - More parks near residential areas and places for dogs off leash.
  - Restore natural biodiversity and ecosystem health of our unique bioregion and watersheds.
  - Bring the community together to plant trees to reestablish the old growth forest.
  - Bring back the salmon.
  - Get rid of the Eel River Dam.
  - Make another brainstorming board around climate change.

Concerns

- I think that a very important part of our community is keeping it clean. More groups focusing on cleaning should be organized. We are a green community and we need to keep it that way.
- I would set up voluntary clean ups to help clean up the beaches, the rivers and the parks (especially Redwood Park) and pick up the trash.
  - Prepare for 7-10 feet of sea level rise.
  - Future climate may change the environment we now experience, yet humans will need and want access to it.
  - There are dogs running loose all over the neighborhood.
    - The devastation of past destruction and existing wounds to the environment
    - Keep Humboldt clean in waste!
    - We don’t lose our redwood ecosystem due to climate change.
      - Make Sun Valley organic-quit the pesticides!

Other

- Most: raw, real community
- Least: rule by money and urban middle-class values
- Hope: real raw community