

**A Vision for Albany**

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Fern Tiger Associates

Albany will be known for its decisions and actions promoting *environmental sustainability*; for its commitment to an *engaged, diverse, and multi-generational community*; for its support of *small-scale, independently-owned businesses*; and for its focus on *local arts, culture, and cuisine*.

Albany – sustainable, innovative, supportive.

Albany – sustainable, strategic,

## **Core Values**

*To accomplish its vision, Albany must consider its strengths, opportunities, and challenges; consider the youth of today and tomorrow; and be steadfast in its commitment to its core values:*

- Active engagement and involvement of all residents
- Knowledge, understanding, and balance in decisionmaking
- Respect for diversity and the needs of a multi-generational community
- Support for educational opportunities and the goals of future generations
- Unwavering commitment to economic and environmental sustainability

## Key Strategies for Action

Albany must embrace an integrated set of strategies to shape the future that its residents envision.

- To foster the development of young people and the community as a whole, Albany must continue to **prioritize education**. Albany youth will be encouraged and supported to contribute to their community in meaningful and innovative ways that benefit local and global sustainability. The city and community will endeavor to ensure that its schools meet the high expectations of residents and that young people are well prepared for the challenges ahead.
- To ensure the preservation of natural resources, Albany will **promote practices and decisionmaking that prioritize environmental sustainability**. The city will be bold in its efforts to adopt and support a wide range of efforts to conserve resources, develop alternative energy sources, and promote responsible transportation alternatives.
- To maintain Albany's quality of life and "small town feeling," the city and community will continue to **focus on pedestrian- and bike-friendly local transportation**, recognizing that such transportation simultaneously maintains the environment, strengthens the local economy, and builds community. To support this effort, Albany will adhere to strong and sustainable community planning principles that are forward-thinking and that put the needs of residents and locally-owned businesses first.
- To ensure that the full community – from youth to seniors, reflecting Albany's full range of cultures and backgrounds – is involved and engaged, community leaders will **operate thoughtfully and knowledgeably**, based on solid information and a commitment to transparency, fairness, and full participation.
- To guarantee that Albany can successfully and proactively achieve its vision, city leaders will advance practices that result in a robust local economy.