

# Sustain Dane's Sustainability Snapshot

Presented to City of Madison SMC

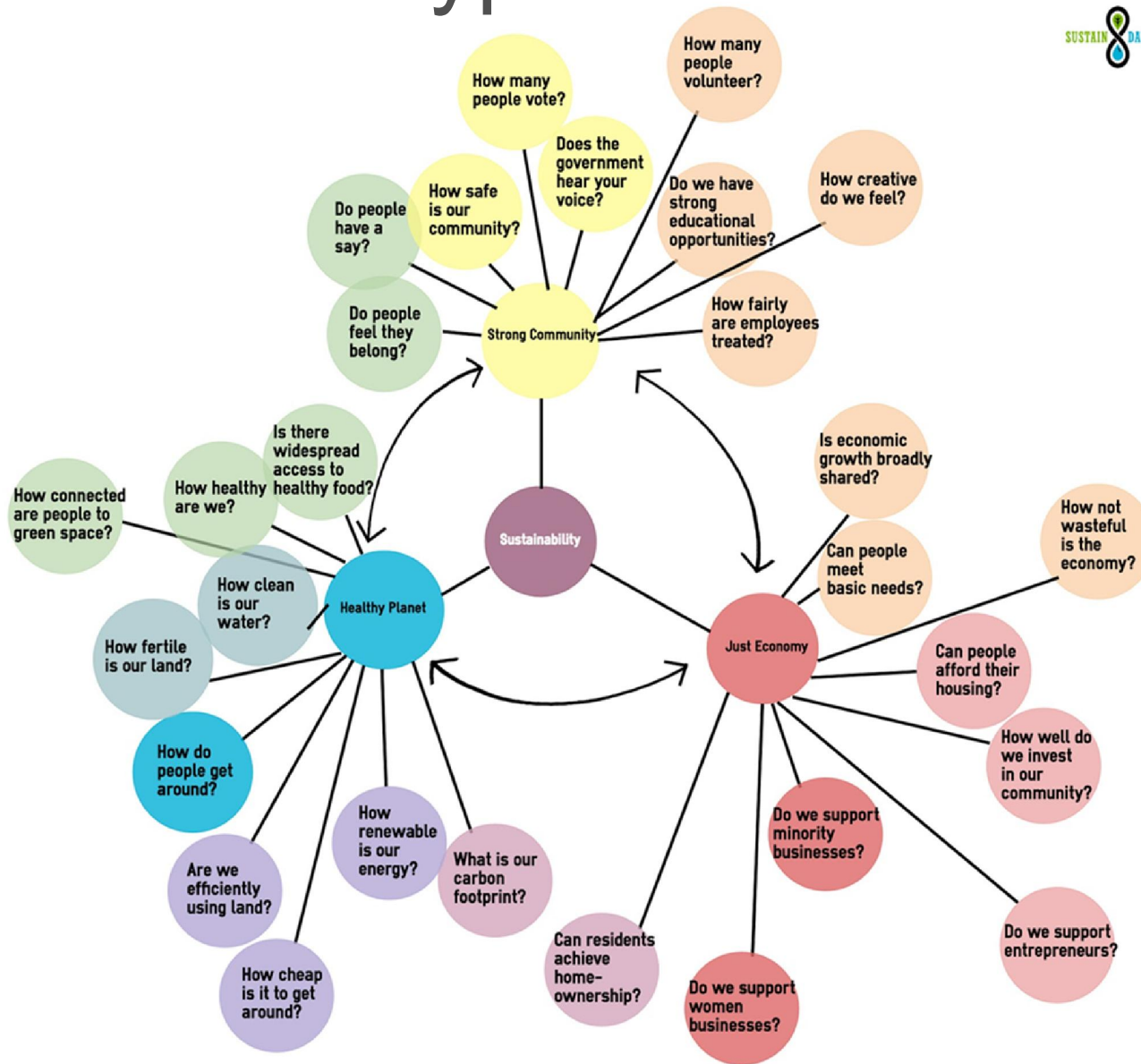
Jessie Lerner, Executive Director, Sustain Dane

2.20.17

**SUSTAIN DANE**  
LIVE FORWARD



# Snapshot Prototype



# Agenda

- Why?
- Goals
- Prototype Process: 2015-2016
- Tool 101
- Prototype Process: 2017
- Looking forward

# Why Sustain Dane Started this...

*“How sustainable is Madison today?”*



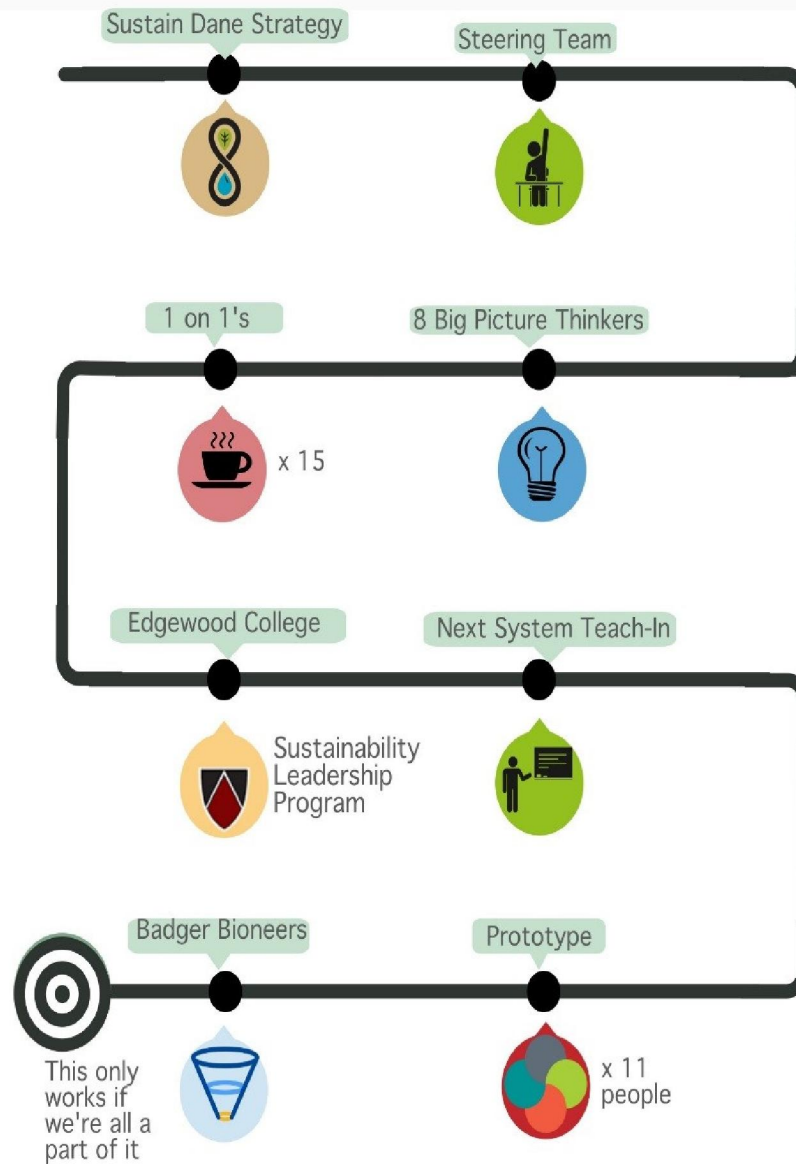
# Why Sustain Dane...

- Big 'S' Sustainability perspective
- Collaboration & widespread partnership
- Silo busting

# Goals

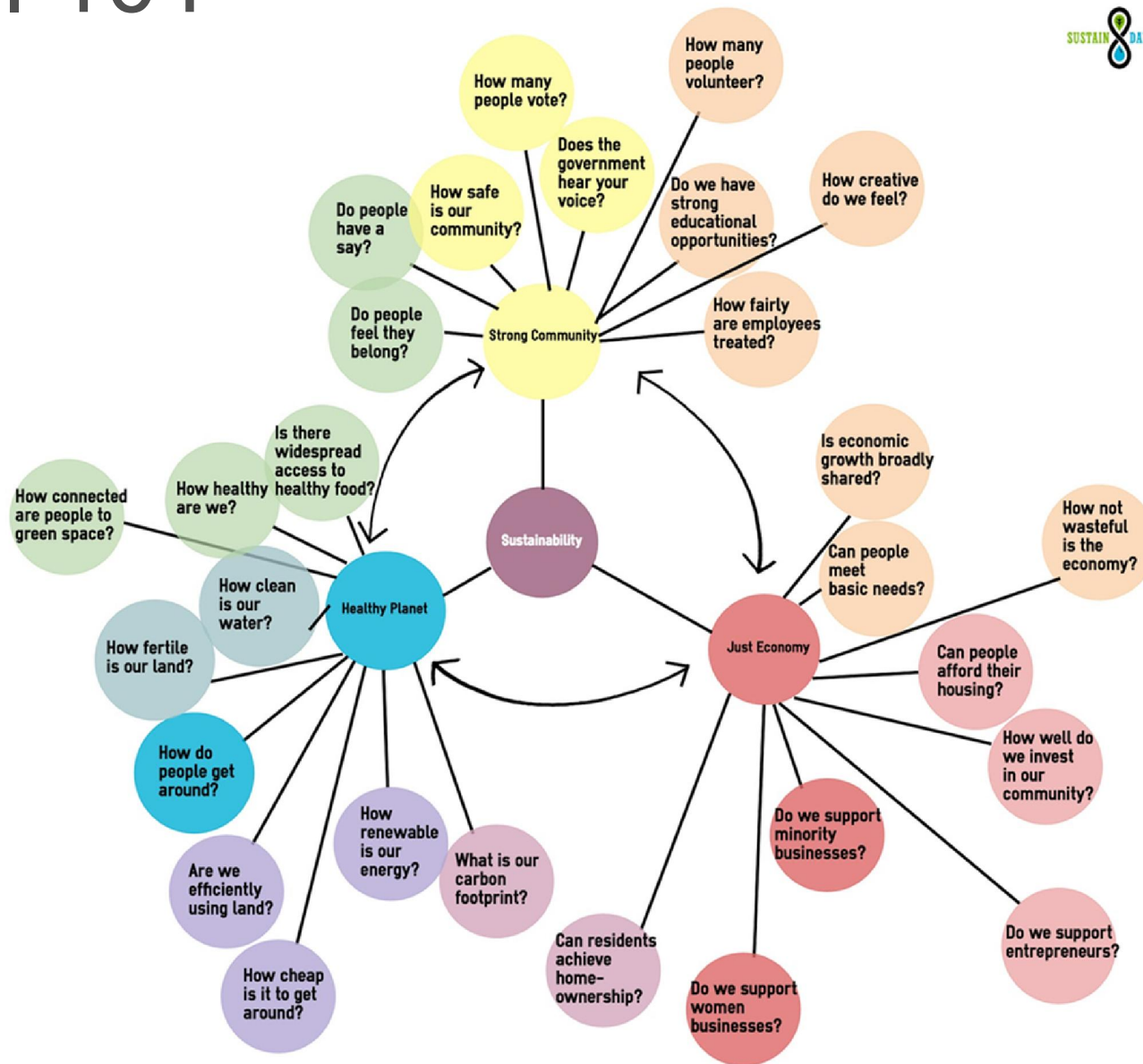
- Define Big 'S' Sustainability
- Connect individual & organizational work to Big 'S'
- Measure sustainability in the Greater Madison Region
- Encourage collaboration around sustainability
- More TBD – defined by other users!

# Prototype Process: 2015-2016





# Tool 101



# Tool 101

## Housing + Transportation Costs

How expensive is it to get around?



### Description

Percent of household income spent on housing and transportation costs

49.9 percent

### Period

2013

### Region

Dane County

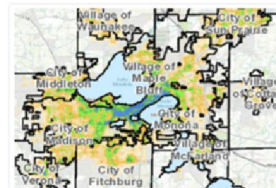
### Why it matters

Affordable and convenient housing and transportation increases mobility and lowers the combined costs of housing and transportation. This affordability is essential to enhance quality of life and increase access to opportunity for all people of all ages, incomes, races, ethnicities, and abilities. The percent of income spent on Housing + Transportation gives a picture of the full costs associated with living in a certain unit and its location. It adds the traditional cost of rents or mortgage to the cost of traveling to daily destinations, which should not exceed 45 % of the total income for individuals.

Capital Region Sustainable Communities: Frameworks for Change, May 2015

### Story

As part of the Active Living Places Initiative, an assessment tool was developed in collaboration with the City of Madison and the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board. The coalition successfully developed a region-wide "Active Living Index," using local data to map current conditions of communities and how conducive they are in supporting active transportation. The index assigns a combined Active Living Score based on three mobility components – walking, biking, and transit – as they relate to primary destinations. The tool can be used by local officials and residents for educational and engagement purposes as a means of identifying where improvements would be needed to promote a more active, healthy, and vibrant community.



### Trend

This number has been roughly level since 2009, but transportation's share of that 50 percent has shrunk, while housing's share has grown.



### Definition

Median selected monthly owner costs for owners with a mortgage and median gross rent, both from the 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimate (2013 ACS), are averaged and weighted by the ratio of owner- to renter-occupied housing units from the tenure variable for every block group in a Core Based Statistical Area. While housing costs are derived from 2013 ACS data, transportation costs, the T in the H+T Index, are modeled based on three components of transportation behavior—auto ownership, auto use, and transit use—which are combined to estimate the cost of transportation. [More on the methodology.](#)

### Reference

[Center for Neighborhood Technology's Housing and Transportation \(H+T®\) Affordability Index](#) with data from US Census, American Community Survey

# Prototype Process: 2017

- Edgewood SISL semester project
  - asset map & report by June 2017
- Two Sustain Dane interns working on polishing & developing prototype website
- Community input through current programming
- Building partnerships
- Capture stories and personal experiences to round out data

# Looking forward

- What is your role in the evolution of the Sustainability Snapshot?