

"12 Steps": We went through the 12 Steps of Transition, both as a review, and as a way of capturing the vast amount of Transition activity going on in the LA area.

#1	#2	#3	#4
Set up a STEERING GROUP and design its demise from the outset	AWARENESS RAISING	NETWORKING with existing groups and activists	GREAT UNLEASHING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the "City Hub" the steering group is this TLA group We discussed Sophy's "Stages of Group Formation" from the T4T. TLA has been "forming" but is now moving into "storming and norming". Sophy's "Good Practice for Groups" needs attention, particularly the "group purpose or ethics/identity" section and the "ground rules/conduct" section. These documents would help define us, deal with the "demise from the outset" issue, plus we need them in place before there are any conflicts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We're doing tons in this area Culver City – 3 events Inglewood – 2 events Mar Vista Westside South bay just getting started 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requesting their input in a new way of looking at the future TreePeople – Anneke & JP met with their green team, plus have joint event with Andy Lipkis on 6/11 TLG/Julie networks with zero waste LA, governor's garden advisory committee, mar vista farmers market, LAUSD, solar education, chef's garden Ferris involved in Green Business Networking forming BALLE groups (Business Aligned for Local Living Economies). Opportunity to put peak oil + climate change in on ground floor of these groups' formation in LA Tom invited to Catholic archdiocese eco conference Peter invited to Michigan conf, JP & Peter Anaheim conf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westside Permies' Gardens of Gratitude was their unleashing Discussed whether Christine's Harvest Westchester an unleashing – likely not, but no matter, it is spawning duplicate projects, plus causing people to blur the lines of "it's mine" and form the networks that will facilitate local food sharing. We haven't done much in the way of "unleashings" in L.A. We discussed Hopkins' emphasis on unlashings and how that might be a feature of small towns (get everyone there, then they all know about Transition) and possibly not so significant or achievable in a huge city.
Followup: We plan to spend part of the June meeting on vision, and then let a smaller group handle the constitution and ground rules issues outside the meeting. Homework prior to the June meeting will include samples from other Transition groups.	Keep up the great work!	Need to send a butterfly (communications group member) to LA Eco Village – they would probably appreciate the recognition and welcome the support.	Conclusion: we won't sweat about our relative lack of unlashings because what we're doing seems to be working.

#5	#6	#7	#8
<p>SMALLER GROUPS to focus on specific aspects of the process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have some interest groups at City Hub level, and in the future as the pods develop further we'll have real working groups there like Totnes • We discussed how we have an extra layer to deal with before we get to working groups, and we have to work through #5 working groups before we get to #12 EDAPs • We debated whether the local pods were the City Hub's working groups and decided no, the City Hub will need working groups for some area-wide issues (like political action). • Returned to step #1 to discuss what would be the makeup of the City Hub after the demise of our initiating steering group. 	<p>OPEN SPACE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eric has used this at Westside, we've used it a bit at TLA city hub • This is a reminder about a technology rather than a particular step. • JP notes that we need to work together on writing the questions to be used – it's hard to do it successfully with just one person. 	<p>PHYSICAL PROJECTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another one where we're doing tons • Typically this will be at the local pod level, not at City Hub • Observation: Most of the LA physical projects seem to involve food and gardens. ECM plans for group purchase of waterbarrels (fall '09) may help to vary this. 	<p>GREAT RESKILLING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another one where we're doing tons • Typically this will be at the local pod level, not at City Hub • 2 vegetable gardening class series (Westchester & Venice) • Breadbaking, sewing (Westchester) • Homeopathy, vegetarian cooking (Mar Vista) • Solar cooking & pickling in the future • Noted that lots of our current reskilling topics target women – need to design for the men too. • Reskilling classes are fun and upbeat, they bring in newbies and then you can hit them with a hint of why we are doing this
<p>Followup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culver City needs support, and Mar Vista is right next door, also with few people. They will partner together for a while. • Also decided to target holding a L.A. T4T in January 2010, likely at Holy Nativity on a Fri/Sat. UMC would be a backup site, neither free site available on a Sunday. 		<p>New idea: "Mar Vista Gardens," the low-income housing project with the ironic name, seems to have lots of land, lots of people, and no food security. Julie, Kay, Vidya, and Sue plan to pursue resources about how to get edible gardens & garden education there. Master Gardener program and Sean Sullivan were mentioned as possible resources. Ideas also for Latin American traditional medicinal plants to be included.</p>	<p>Ideas for future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kay wants to ask John T/Julian to bring the self-watering container workshop to Culver City • Jacqueline's cousin is experienced at canning • Beer-making proposed to bring in the guys • Julie will work on a person to teach bike repair • JP mentioned idea of earthquake preparedness kits, created as a group treasure hunt. Jacqueline & Ferris volunteered to help

#9	#10	#11	#12
Build a bridge to LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Honor the ELDERS	Let it go where it needs to go.	ENERGY DESCENT ACTION PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECM has had a long term good relationship with several of our Westchester political representatives. Now trying to segue that relationship from solely Joanne/Peter to other individuals to diversify the faces. Julie/TLG takes the subtle approach, chatting over lunch. Thus subtle is another viable way to do this. Culver City: Cathi Vargus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We started off by saying we aren't doing much on this step We discussed the fact that we plenty of older people in LA, but somehow this step wasn't happening Hopkins was encouraging us to capture the pre-petroleum stories and experiences. We realized that the older people here in LA don't necessarily have that many powered-down stories to relate, not like they seem to have in the UK! The group proposed that we think of this step as "honor the INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, and the IMMIGRANTS" because here we will find plenty of powered-down knowledge & experience base. Our wealth is in the diversity of our population! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From transition materials: "Keep your focus on the key design criteria – building community resilience and reducing the carbon footprint" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hopkins & T Network say that this is the end goal of the 12 steps, but it is the beginning of the Transition because after the EDAP it gets into the real work of creating change. "Our first task is to create a shadow economic, social and even technological structure that will be ready to take over as the existing system fails." -- David Ehrenfeld (p141 T Handbook) We talked about how we have to have #5 in place in order to do #12, so we're not yet ready to begin #12 (and that's an ok place to be at 4 months of age!). At points in the future, we'll have working groups at the local level and be doing EDAPs at the local levels.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idea for reskilling: a class by Latinos on how to cook cactus flowers/fruit (Jacq's neighbors? Julie's contacts?) Anneke to pursue an event with Pachanmama Alliance 	We concluded that in our city, building community is the first step, because real community is such a new thing here.	Conclusion: We're not behind – in fact we're getting a tremendous amount done.

Other agenda items:

- Discussed how to set up a web presence for a pod. See free resources at the newly-revised Core Team webpage <http://envirochangemakers.org/TLA/TLAcore.htm>
- Selected a logo (YAY AGNES!!!) soon coming on the Transition LA website <http://envirochangemakers.org/TLA/TLAcore.htm>

Other business that didn't get mentioned:

- JP and Christine working to activate www.TransitionLA.org domain name so that we have a neater, more recognizable address.
- Eric A is working on a TLA sticker which reads "got Resilience?" and gives our website
- Vidya's daughter Naomi is attending a storyteller's class in the UK, part of the "Transition Tales" project. Naomi will be in LA the weekend of July 25, and we're trying to set up a 2 hr session where Naomi can share what she learned with the LA storytelling community. Unfortunately Rich Bolin's schedule doesn't match (he wanted to champion Transition Tales here). Possibilities include recording the event.
- Re: the intern idea that Julie encouraged months ago, Peter says it is not a matter of "if" but of "when" we take on intern help. JP and Peter are seriously discussing how and details.