



SIMONE THOMAS
formerly known as
BERYL MAGILAVY

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Simone Thomas, formerly known as Beryl Magilavy pioneered sustainability planning in San Francisco, creating its Department of the Environment in 1996, of which she was commission president and later its first director. She was instrumental in San Francisco's adoption of the Sustainability Plan for the City and

County of San Francisco, for which she had organized the community planning process via the nonprofit sector.

As director of the San Francisco Department of the Environment, she led the interdepartmental effort that resulted in the city's green building ordinance and its municipal integrated pest management plan. She drafted much of both pieces of legislation, as well as board and commission resolutions on a wide range of other environmental matters.

She is author of [The Third Era- Sustainable Development and the Race Against Climate Change](#), a fictionalized discussion of sustainable development, accountable government, and climate change in the context of local authority action in seven European cities: Barcelona, Berlin, Hamburg, Paris, Sienna, Stockholm, and Vienna.

Magilavy ran a nonprofit recycling company for several years and was among the leadership of successful political campaigns to reform the city's transportation system; replace a freeway with a landscaped, surface-level boulevard; and to stop chain store expansion into a neighborhood commercial area. She is past chair of the local group of the Sierra Club, in which role she worked with members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to create legislation on local contributions to climate change and other issues.

She has degrees in history and physics. Earlier in her career, she did research in optics and cryogenics at NASA, Ames Research center, publishing on the properties of thallium bromo-iodide fibers, and was personnel manager of Dolby Laboratories in its early years in San Francisco.

She has spent much of the time since the turn of the century working as a Web developer, traveling and doing research and writing on culture, sustainability, and civil liberties in Europe and South America. She speaks French and has a decent facility in Italian, can read and understand Spanish, and has a more limited ability at traveler-level Catalán and German.

She has returned to the USA in 2015 to do whatever she can to see Bernie Sanders elected to the presidency, and remains engaged in public affairs.