

Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

Agenda

March 18, 2020
City Hall, 749 Main Street, Spruce Room
6:30 - 8:00pm

1. 6:30PM Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
5. 6:35PM City Staff Updates (10 minutes)
6. 6:45PM Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda (5 minutes, more as needed)
7. 6:55 PM LSAB Member Updates and Reports (5 minutes, more as needed)
8. Discussion Item: Sustainability Action Plan – Second Review
9. Administration Tasks
 - A. Log Volunteer Hours
 - B. Work Plan Review for Next Meeting
10. Adjourn

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board
From: Katie Baum, Sustainability Specialist
Date: February 19, 2020
Re: Staff Updates

General

- **Public Health and Safety**
 - Staff has created a webpage on the City's website at <https://www.louisvilleco.gov/residents/coronavirus-update>. This page is updated daily as the situation changes.
 - The City is closely monitoring the coronavirus situation and will share information with the public as needed. The Boulder Office of Emergency Management and Boulder County Public Health are keeping local agencies up-to-date and the City has developed contingency plans in the event that we experience an outbreak in the region. If that occurs, there may be periodic closures of facilities and/or reduced service levels as needed.
 - Events and programming are being evaluated.
- **LSAB**
 - **May 12th, 5:30 – 7pm: City Council and LSAB Study Session**
 - During the course of dinner, LSAB will give an annual update and have discussion with Council. The board presentation should be no more than 10 minutes. LSAB should identify topics to discuss with Council prior to the meeting.
- **Sustainability Action Plan Update**
 - Timeline
 - March – second LSAB review
 - April 7th – City Council first review
 - May – City Council adoption
- **Community Survey**
 - Three questions in the upcoming Community Survey around sustainability:



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

- Please tell us if you think the City should give more, less or about the same efforts to each of the following aspects of its strategy to achieve Louisville's sustainability vision:
 - Reduce energy consumption and increase use of clean energy
 - Encourage water efficiency and water quality efforts
 - Promote fuel-efficient transportation and multi-modal infrastructure
 - Increase community waste diversion
 - Ensure a sustainable, safe and healthy food supply that is accessible
- How much do you support or oppose a charge on single-use carryout bags in Louisville
- How much do you support or oppose a tax initiative that would provide additional revenue to meet 100% of community's electric needs from carbon free source
- **Sustainability Survey in June after SAP adoption**
 - Would LSAB help put together an EngageLouisville survey? What do we want to know from residents?
- **Green Business**
 - Green Business was a success. Thank you to Seth and Mark for joining. Coverage in the Daily Camera.
 - Case study of Christ the Servant Lutheran developed. Others in progress.
 - Communications to be developed and distributed include: March digital newsletter, press release, website article, social media and Platinum awardees case studies
 - Green Business Breakfast will take place on **Wednesday, May 20th from 7 until 9 am.** Eventbrite to RSVP will be developed and distributed.
 - For the 2020 program year:
 - Goals:
 - Add 5 new businesses to the program
 - Retain 80 percent of the 2019 applicants (approx. 31 of the 2019 businesses)
 - Continue to formalize through consistent communications
 - July – Green Business will be hosting Chamber Happy Hour
 - Workshop calendar is being formed
- **Sustainability Events/Programming**
 - **Programming is currently TBD. Events may be rescheduled.**
 - April
 - April 2nd, 6 – 8 pm, Louisville Center for the Arts: Biggest Little Farm film screening
 - April 16th, 7 – 8:30 pm, Louisville Library: Making a Life and a Living: Environmental Careers



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

- April 22nd, 9 – 11 am, Community Park: Earth Day Cleanup
- April 25th, 9 – noon, Ascent Church Parking Lot: Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Disposal Drop Off
- May
 - May 9th, 9 – noon, Louisville Library: Bike to Books w/Library
 - May 20th, 7 – 9 am, Louisville Center for the Arts: Green Business Breakfast
- June
 - June 24th, 6:30 – 9 am, City Hall: Bike to Work Day
 - June 28th, 9 – noon, TBD: Electric Vehicles and Ride-and-Drive
- August
 - TBD: City Open House (August/September)
- **SUPPORT NEEDED**
 - Biggest Little Farm – set up assistance
 - Laura and Tiffany =
 - Environmental Careers – outreach support
 - Volunteers? Melanie
 - Earth Day Cleanup – set up assistance
 - Volunteers?
 - Bike to Books – event assistance for tricycle course
 - Volunteers?
- Meeting with Lafayette's WRAC on Sustainability Film Series – Laura providing update
- **Municipal Operations**
 - Adding sustainability section into New Employee Orientation
 - Evaluating purchasing policy to incorporate green practices
 - Audit planning with Xcel account manager and facilities manager
 - Portfolio Manager onboarding
 - Adding xeriscape to golf course
 - Continuing expansion of recycling/composting in parks/open space
- **Energy Future Collaboration (EFC)**
 - Facility audit planning with Xcel account manager and facilities manager
 - 2019 final program numbers requested
 - Xcel communications manager and staff
 - Building climate action goals communications
 - Green business breakfast communications
- **Grants**
 - Current:
 - Boulder County Sustainability Matching Grant
 - Boulder County Zero Waste Grant
 - 2020:



City of
Louisville
City Manager's Office

- RAQC Charging Station Grant

Next Steps

Seeking LSAB volunteers for events needing support.

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

From: Katie Baum, Sustainability Specialist

Date: March 18, 2020

Re: Discussion Item 8: Sustainability Action Plan – 2nd Review

Summary

In 2012, the Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board tasked themselves with the creation of a document to outline recommendations for the City. The Sustainability Action Plan is intended to articulate Louisville's vision to create a more sustainable community as well as provide a roadmap for achieving our collective goals.

Adopted by City Council in 2016, the plan includes guidelines for internal City operations as well as communitywide approaches for residents and businesses. In general, the current plan has a focus on environmental impacts and their potential economic benefits.

Due to the nature of the Louisville Sustainability Action Plan (LSAP) as a guiding and living document, staff and LSAB has recognized needed updates to the LSAP and tasked themselves in 2019 with updating and amending the framework. Over the course of 2019, staff and LSAB have discussed necessary changes and updates. Staff has developed a first draft for LSAB's review. In the second draft, Appendix A (Priority Matrix at Council's request) has been included. Appendix B are not provided as it is in development. Any additional language not provided is still in progress.

Next Steps

Staff has developed a first draft for LSAB's review. Any language not provided is still in progress.



LOUISVILLE

Sustainability Action Plan

2020 UPDATE

ADOPTED BY
CITY COUNCIL
MAY XX, 2020



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Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
SUSTAINABILITY VISION	8
PLAN STRUCTURE	9
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CLIMATE	11
ENERGY	16
TRANSPORTATION	21
WASTE	28
WATER	34
ECOLOGICAL HEALTH	40
LOCAL FOOD + AGRICULTURE	46
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APPENDIX A: STRATEGY PRIORITY MATRIX	50
APPENDIX B: 2020 UPDATE SUMMARY OF REVISIONS	52

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Acknowledgements

The City of Louisville Sustainability Action Plan 2020 update would not have been possible without the support and dedication of leadership, staff, the Sustainability Advisory Board and regional partners.

CITY COUNCIL

- Ashley Stolzmann, *Mayor*
- Dennis Maloney, *Mayor Pro Tem, Ward III*
- Caleb Dickinson, *Ward I*
- Chris Leh, *Ward I*
- Deb Fahey, *Ward II*
- Jeff Lipton, *Ward II*
- Kyle Brown, *Ward III*

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- Seth Adams, *Member*
- Laura Levesque-Catalano, *Member*
- Melanie Dubin, *Member*
- Tiffany Boyd, *Member*
- Dan Mellish, *Member*
- Marianne Martin, *Former Member*

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- Heather Balsler, *City Manager*
- Megan Davis, *Deputy City Manager*
- Emily Hogan, *Assistant City Manager*
- Katie Baum, *Sustainability Specialist*
- Kurt Kowar, *Director of Public Works*
- Cory Peterson, *Deputy Director of Public Works*
- Dave Szabados, *Facilities Manager*
- Nathan Moseley, *Director of Parks, Recreation & Open Space*
- Ember Brignull, *Open Space Superintendent*

GROUPS, ORGANIZATIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS

- Lea Yancy, *Boulder County*
- Tim Broderick, *Boulder County*
- Zac Swank, *Boulder County Partners for a Clean Environment*
- Matt Hannon, *Boulder County Partners for a Clean Environment*
- Craig Eicher, *Xcel Energy*
- Susan Davis, *Xcel Energy*
- RJ Harrington, *Resident*
- Martin Ogle, *Resident*



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IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I INTRODUCE THE FIRST UPDATE TO THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN.



In 2012, the Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board (LSAB) tasked themselves with the creation of a Sustainability Action Plan, a framework to guide Louisville's vision to create a more sustainable community as well as provide a roadmap for achieving our collective goals. In November of 2016, City Council adopted Louisville's first Sustainability Action Plan. Since that time, our community has made significant progress to achieving our goals and strategies, and in order to continue our momentum, LSAB began the updating process in July 2019.

A few important projects and milestones that influenced the 2020 update include the following:

Community-Wide and Municipal Carbon-Free and Emission Reduction Goals

In August 2019, City Council unanimously agreed to adopt renewable energy and carbon emission reduction goals for both the community and City operations. In order to achieve these goals and our significant step forward, an update of the Sustainability Action Plan was needed to provide guidance on implementation.

Evolving Regional Partnerships and Opportunities

In September 2018, Louisville graduated from Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy program and moved forward with our ongoing partnership by entering into an Energy Future Collaboration. Unlike the previous Partners in Energy program, Energy Future prioritizes both renewable energy integration as well as energy efficiency and usage reduction.

Transportation Master Plan (TMP)

City Council adopted the Transportation Master Plan on October 1, 2019. The TMP is a comprehensive, multimodal look at transportation conditions and options throughout Louisville and the region and provides recommendations and alternatives that are critical for a sustainable future.

We have a lot of work remaining, but I'm happy to report that we have already achieved some of our targets and strategies, and we have many new and impactful sustainability opportunities on the horizon.

Your partner in sustainability

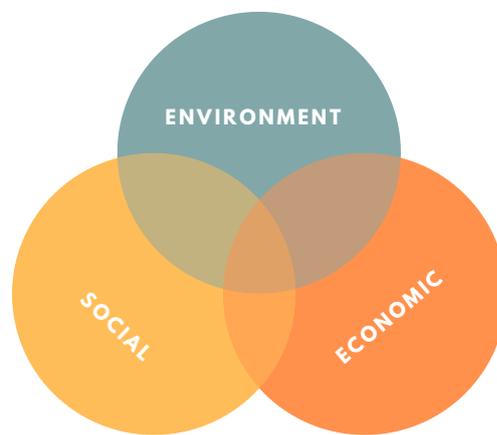
Heather Balser
City Manager



Sustainability Vision

Sustainability is an integrated, ever-evolving concept and is a vital in developing a resilient community. Defined in 1987 by the United Nations Brundtland Commission, sustainability is meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. For any community to thrive, it must consider that all resources have limits.

The City of Louisville recognizes that sustainability is not based solely on environmental impact, and our sustainability vision utilizes the triple-bottom line approach when analyzing policy, operations and future decision-making. No solution can be sustainable unless it fulfills all three pillars.



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

We actively work to support our natural systems within Louisville and evaluate and consider the impact that community operations, programs, services and regulations have on the local, regional and global environment.

SOCIAL EQUITY

Social equity is our active commitment to fairness and equality in policy consideration, implementation and distribution of public services.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

We are dedicated to making Louisville a vibrant and diverse business environment. Louisville takes a balanced approach to economic development to retain our existing business partners and attract new ones.



Plan Structure

This Sustainability Plan update is organized around seven inter-related sustainability topics: Climate, Energy, Transportation, Waste, Water, Ecological Health and Local Food and Agriculture. Each topic is separated into progressing steps forward and laid out by the following:

GOALS

Each topic has one associated goal that identifies the overall desired state of the community.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Each topic area and its corresponding goal are separated into internal and external objectives. Internal objectives and strategies are specifically related to municipal operations and procedures in order to lead by example. External objectives and strategies are aimed at the entire community, both residential and commercial/industrial.

NEAR TERM VS MID TERM STRATEGIES

Strategies are identified actions to achieve the described goals and objectives and are categorized as near term or mid term. All strategies within this plan have been vetted and prioritized. Further prioritization can be found in Appendix A. In this instance, near term is defined as a timeline of one to two years, whereas mid term is three to four years. At the end of four years, the planning process for the next update will be in progress.

Other major chapters of the Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) include the following:

APPENDIX A

Strategy Priority Matrix

APPENDIX B

2020 Plan Update Summary of Revisions

INCORPORATED PLANNING EFFORTS

Louisville has completed multiple planning efforts that relate to sustainability. Throughout the engagement process for these plans, residents shared their desire for environmental stewardship. The SAP update takes these plans into consideration and incorporates previous input, strategies and recommendations when applicable.

- Sustainability Action Plan 2016
- Boulder County Environmental Sustainability Plan
- City of Louisville Strategic Plan
- Transportation Master Plan
- Trail and Wayfinding Master Plan
- Comprehensive Plan
- Drought Management Plan



Climate



CLIMATE

INTRODUCTION

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GOAL

Achieve emissions reduction targets identified in Louisville's climate action goals and become more resilient to the effects of climate change.



CLIMATE

INTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Reduce core municipal greenhouse gas emissions annually below the 2016 baseline through 2025.

NEAR TERM

Adopt internal policies that establish climate action as a top priority for the organization and guiding principle for decision making.

Ensure that all departments understand their role in achieving Louisville's climate action and sustainability goals.

MID TERM

Continue to be an active member in statewide organizations that are working on our behalf to combat climate change, such as Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA).

Please see other chapters of this plan for more municipal climate-related strategies related to specific topic areas such as Energy (PAGE 16), Transportation (PAGE 21), Waste (PAGE 28) and Ecological Health (PAGE 40).

COLORADO COMMUNITIES FOR CLIMATE ACTION



The City of Louisville is an active member of Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA), a coalition of 32 local governments across the state advocating for stronger state and federal climate policy. CC4CA members understand that climate change poses unique and severe risks to our communities and that we cannot meet our own local climate goals without effective state and federal policy.



CLIMATE

EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Reduce core community greenhouse emissions annually below the 2016 baseline through 2030.

NEAR TERM

Continue communications surrounding climate action and Louisville's climate action goals.

Promote local and regional programs and initiatives that assist residents and commercial entities in reducing their greenhouse gas emissions (i.e. EnergySmart, Xcel Energy's Home Energy Squad, etc.).

MID TERM

Explore a mandatory or voluntary benchmarking requirement for commercial and industrial buildings owners in Louisville and support collaboration on a County level.

Pursue future climate change preparedness policies and collaborative efforts at the local, regional, and state levels.

Please see other chapters of this plan for community climate-related strategies related to specific topic areas such as Energy (PAGE 16), Transportation (PAGE 21), Waste (PAGE 28) and Ecological Health (PAGE 40).

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



SOLAR AT WATER TREATMENT

The City has three on-site solar arrays to help generate power and offset energy consumption. The sites, located at the North Water Treatment Plant, the South Water Treatment Plant, and the Wastewater Plant, produce about 1,045 kW of electricity.

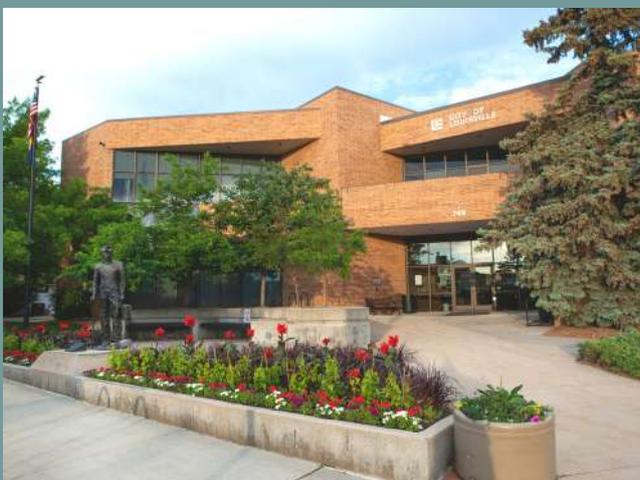
COMMUNITY IN ACTION



GLOBAL CITIZENS GEOGRAPHY CLUB

The Global Citizens Geography Club at Louisville Elementary School is a student-driven and teacher-led school group that supports students being civically engaged while participating in the stewardship of our planet. Some of their efforts have focused on sustainable practices right here in Louisville, and some have been connected to larger issues of climate science and climate solutions. Students strive to educate and inform themselves and the students at their schools, while also reaching out to citizens of Louisville to share their learning. Recently, Louisville Middle School began a counterpart group, the Global Citizens Environment Club.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



100% CARBON FREE CITY FACILITIES

In August 2019, City Council adopted the City's first climate action goals. Five years ahead of schedule, all municipal facilities are running on 100% carbon-free electricity.



Energy





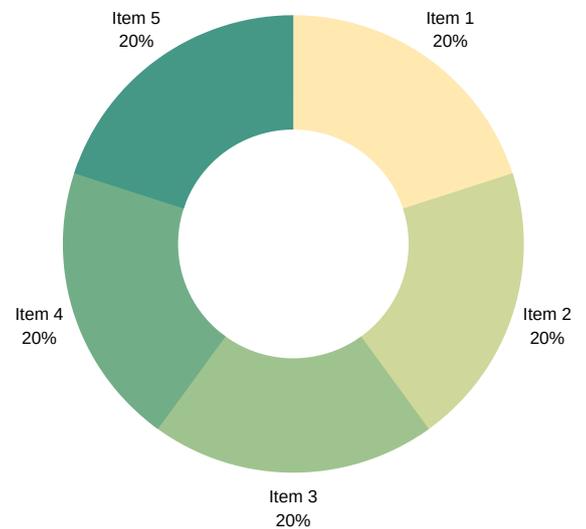
ENERGY

INTRODUCTION

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GOAL

Reduce energy consumption, promote energy efficiency in new and existing buildings, increase the use of carbon-free energy and transition away from fossil fuels.

INTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Reduce Louisville's municipal energy consumption

NEAR TERM

Perform energy audits on all major City buildings.

Collect and track energy use data for all municipal buildings using utility data tracking software.

Implement facility audit recommendations in partnership with state and Xcel Energy programs and with consideration of resource limitations and other constraints.

MID TERM

Aim to achieve 80% of all points within the Energy and Atmosphere section of the USGBC LEED for new City building construction

Develop facility and job specific behavior and operational modification strategies.

Increase Louisville's integration of carbon-free energy

NEAR TERM

Continue working with Xcel Energy to analyze existing infrastructure and available programs to understand opportunities.

Identify budget requests and grant opportunities required for implementation.

MID TERM

Meet all of Louisville's municipal electric needs with 100% carbon-free sources by 2025.

Explore expansion of capacity for on-site electric and solar thermal generation to decrease energy consumption.

EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Increase energy efficiency in residential and commercial properties across Louisville

NEAR TERM

Adopt building codes and policies that promote energy efficiency in new and existing buildings.

Promote available efficiency and sustainability programs for residents and businesses.

MID TERM

Develop a campaign to encourage commercial/industrial benchmarking of energy consumption through the use of data tracking software.

Develop a targeted outreach strategy to engage facility managers and property owners on energy conservation efforts and resources.

Develop, market to the community and update Louisville guiding documents to further address energy conservation.

Increase renewable energy adoption at residential and commercial/industrial properties in Louisville

NEAR TERM

Identify barriers to renewable energy participation and facilitate implementation of solutions.

Evaluate need and consider solar access policy.

Promote low-interest financing for residents and businesses to integrate renewable energy.

MID TERM

Increase outreach and education efforts with local solar installers, efficiency contractors, residents and business owners.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

MUNICIPAL EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

The City participated in nine Xcel Energy efficiency opportunities in 2019. The completed projects have an estimated energy savings of 679,416 kWh per year. That's the equivalent of taking 102 passenger vehicles off the road for one year!



COMMUNITY IN ACTION



Community Food Share's solar array

LOUISVILLE GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

Partnering with Boulder County's Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE), the Louisville Green Business Program provides assistance for all businesses to implement new sustainable practices and cost-saving measures, shaping a vibrant green economy here in Louisville. In 2019, 39 Louisville businesses received 2019 Green Business Awards in the Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze categories.



Mayor Stolzmann presenting Christ the Servant Lutheran with their 2019 Platinum award



Green business representatives attend a solar workshop in Boulder



Transportation





TRANSPORTATION

INTRODUCTION

A city-wide multimodal transportation system is needed to meet the mobility and access needs of all users and to support health and wellness. This can be achieved by proactively planning land use and transportation infrastructure as a multimodal system that facilitates a balanced system and enhances travel by bicycle, transit, and foot.

As more people are spending time in Louisville, and traveling through the city to get to other regional destinations, it is important that the transportation network continues to develop to meet our changing and diversifying needs in a sustainable and inclusive manner.

Infographic

GOAL

Provide and maintain environmentally sustainable and safe transportation choices for all Louisville residents to enhance community connectivity while reducing environmental impact.





TRANSPORTATION

INTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Reduce the GHG emissions from the City fleet.

NEAR TERM

Incorporate cyclist-safety and green driving training into employee education.

Continue evaluation of City fleet and usage to evaluate electrification and shared fleet potential.

Install anti-idle devices within pilot percentage of police vehicles and evaluate effectiveness and cost savings.

Consider a micro-mobility solution for employees to utilize between facilities (i.e. bike share, e-bikes).

MID TERM

Consider down-sizing or eliminating underutilized vehicles from fleet.

Develop EV charging stations in strategic City locations for future PHEV and EV fleet integration.

Actively promote the adoption of hybrid, plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV), and battery electric vehicles (BEV) for Louisville's fleet as appropriate technology develops.

Ensure all Louisville employees have access to multimodal means of local and commute travel, to reduce single-occupancy vehicle commute trips, and explore creative ways to incentivize employees to reduce the carbon footprint of their travel



TRANSPORTATION

NEAR TERM

Survey employees to better understand commuting patterns and available commuting solutions.

Incorporate EV infrastructure in any new construction and/or major remodels of city-owned buildings and provide employee pricing.

MID TERM

Offer transportation incentives to employees, such as Regional Transportation District (RTD) EcoPasses, pass books, Vanpool subsidies, Bike to Work Day incentives, secure bike parking, e-bike charging stations and employee showers within each building.

Create new programs to mitigate vehicle miles traveled (VMT) such as parking cash-out programs, car-share opportunities, commute challenges with prizes and increased access to pool vehicles.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

In November 2019, the City completed installation of a Level 2 dual port at the Recreation and Senior Center. In efforts to achieve community climate action goals, the City is preparing for and implementing actions that support the increased use of plug-in electric vehicles (EVs) and decarbonization throughout Louisville and the region.



TRANSPORTATION

EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Increase modal choice and decrease the single-occupancy vehicle share of local and regional trips

NEAR TERM

Facilitate participation in initiatives and programs that encourage residents to use bicycle and pedestrian transportation.

Continue efforts and build-out surrounding recommended actions within the Transportation Master Plan.

Pursue Bronze or Silver Bicycle-Friendly Community status.

Continue efforts to coordinate on a regional level to implement a bike share program.

Coordinate and communicate public transit programs.

MID TERM

Inventory and strategically improve Louisville bus stops to increase ridership, comfort and safety.

Evaluate a free ride program for income-limited residents.

Support the public adoption of EVs and assist in the installation of public charging stations

NEAR TERM

Support and promote installation of EV charging stations at commercial/industrial development and sites.

Provide educational opportunities and programs on PHEV and EV adoption to residents and commercial entities.



TRANSPORTATION

MID TERM

Evaluate EV-ready building code adoption.

Pursue opportunities for pooled purchasing programs for EVs and electric bikes with County or other regional partners.

Work with Xcel Energy through the Energy Future Collaboration to promote the public health benefits of EVs and alternative funding and initiatives.

Collaborate with regional agencies to develop solutions to provide sustainable transportation management services.

NEAR TERM

Participate in transportation policy monitoring and advocacy.

MID TERM

Work regionally to expand transit pass options and incentives.

Enhance shared transit facilities outlined in the Transportation Master Plan.

Coordinate vehicle share and transit operations.





COMMUNITY IN ACTION



BIKE TO WORK DAY

Every third Wednesday in June, Bike to Work Day participants visit stations scattered throughout the community to celebrate bike commuting. In 2019, over 200 participants stopped by the City's breakfast station for pancakes, giveaways and music!





Waste

INTRODUCTION

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GOAL

Increase community and municipal waste diversion, striving for a goal of zero-waste, and manage resources responsibly and effectively.





WASTE

INTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Work toward zero waste in City facilities, operations and events

NEAR TERM

Conduct facility waste characterization studies to determine the specific composition and quantity of waste generated.

Set diversion targets where appropriate where appropriate and identify opportunities to minimize waste generation and increase diversion.

Identify opportunities to increase diversion or zero waste at City-sponsored events.

Develop employee education and behavioral change strategies.

MID TERM

Identify budget requests required for implementation.

Develop internal green purchasing policies and new operational policies to further waste reduction

NEAR TERM

Assess existing purchases and contracts to identify opportunities to transition to more sustainable products or service.

MID TERM

Establish a set of criteria, specific to product or service categories, that can be used to identify preferred products and services.

Provide customized support to City departments to support implementation of sustainable procurement.



WASTE

EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Create a culture of zero waste in Louisville through education, infrastructure and services

NEAR TERM

Develop education campaigns for single-family residences, multifamily residences and businesses.

Identify opportunities to provide zero waste education.

Provide events and programs to dispose of hazardous and hard-to-recycle items.

MID TERM

Support food waste reduction and redistribution efforts.

Customize and distribute information on resource recovery facilities in Louisville and Boulder County.

Support multifamily and business compost collection systems and education.

Increase commercial and construction material diversion

NEAR TERM

Continue to support and promote free waste audits and services to commercial entities through the Louisville Green Business program.

Evaluate policies and provide incentives for commercial entities to adopt zero waste collection programs.

MID TERM

Work with Boulder County and surrounding municipalities to understand residential and commercial deconstruction and incentivize construction and demolition materials recycling and reuse.



WASTE

EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Support diversion through additional strategies

NEAR TERM

Partner with local retailers to reduce the use of nonrecyclable, non-compostable and non-reusable containers.

Evaluate policies related to nonrecyclable items within Louisville.

Encourage and collaborate with Home Owner Associations to offer the same level of waste services as the City.

MID TERM

Promote circular opportunities for city-generated recyclables and compost.

Support capacity for construction and demolition materials transfer, sorting, processing and reuse.

Work with Boulder County to develop a construction and demolition tracking and reporting system and evaluate potential requirements.

CITY WASTE COLLECTION



Boulder County Recycling Center

The City includes a refuse, recycling and composting program as a part of our utility service to single-family homes (excluding some HOAs). This service is intended to lower costs for the majority of Louisville residents, reduce truck traffic and its associated pollution, as well as increase diversion rates. Rates are based on customer solid waste cart size and include recycling and compost collection.



LEADING BY EXAMPLE



RECYCLING + COMPOSTING AT CITY FACILITIES

From large City-sponsored events to high school graduation parties, our parks, shelters, and recreation areas are visited by tens of thousands of visitors annually. To increase community waste diversion, Louisville has begun expanding recycling and composting into Parks and Open Spaces. With grant funding from Boulder County, new composting and recycling receptacles have been placed at high-use recreation areas and park shelters such as Community Park, Pirate's Park, Memory Square Park, Cottonwood Park, and other locations. Look for these bins the next time you visit our public spaces.

COMMUNITY IN ACTION

WASTE DIVERSION AT COMMUNITY EVENTS

The City hosted 11 events with EcoCycle's help in 2019 – Labor Day, Senior Dinner, Taste of Louisville and 8 Street Faire events. During the events, attendees diverted 8,508.52 lbs of waste out of 9,347.53 total lbs – that's an approximate 91% diversion rate!





Water



INTRODUCTION

Clean, plentiful water supply is a critical necessity. Originating as snow melt in the Rocky Mountains, Louisville's water supply provides drinking water for residents and visitors, supports a growing economy and provides rich habitat for wildlife within the community.

Clean, plentiful water supply is a critical necessity. Originating as snow melt in the Rocky Mountains, Louisville's water supply provides drinking water for residents and visitors, supports a growing economy and provides rich habitat for wildlife within the community.

GOAL

Support water efficiency and quality and ensure a clean, reliable water supply for current and future natural landscapes and the community.





WATER

INTERNAL STRATEGIES

Reduce water usage and improve efficiency of water use within City buildings

NEAR TERM

Benchmark all City buildings' indoor water use and prioritize facilities for water audits based on resource use and reporting mechanisms.

Ensure that new City buildings achieve 80% of the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) points within the applicable water efficiency section of the USGBC new construction process.

Set facility-specific efficiency targets where appropriate.

MID TERM

Implement facility audit recommendations with consideration of resource limitations and other constraints.

Develop facility and job specific behavior and operational modification strategies.

Reduce City outdoor water usage

NEAR TERM

Benchmark all City buildings' outdoor water use, data collection on square feet of landscape being irrigated and service charges for all water-related utilities

Replace irrigated turf around City buildings and on City property where appropriate.

MID TERM

Repair, upgrade, and adjust all irrigation systems with the most efficient available technologies over time.

Evaluate capacity to expand the reuse system and increase recycled water usage on City landscaping and open spaces.



WATER

INTERNAL STRATEGIES

Improve and maintain water quality

NEAR TERM

Begin the development of a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan.

Continue to update procedure manuals and operational plans related to water use, wastewater and storm water treatment and incorporate methods to promote sustainability and limit environmental impacts.

MID TERM

Evaluate street design specifications (such as road widths or type of curbing), erosion and sediment control ordinances, landscaping requirements, and other standards that encourage the use of Low Impact Development (LID) practices.

Continue improving water quality and maintain the water supply on Parks & Open Space properties

NEAR TERM

Support ecological stream restoration and in-stream flow efforts to aid species recovery and improve water quality.

Explore nontoxic management practices for pest and weed control where possible or pilot in compliance with City adopted policy.

MID TERM

Research and consider Green Infrastructure Network (GIN) strategies and management best practices for implementation on City-owned properties.

Evaluate capacity to expand the reuse system and increase recycled water usage on City landscaping and open spaces.



WATER

EXTERNAL STRATEGIES

Expand water conservation education for City residents and businesses

NEAR TERM

Conduct a gap analysis of the water efficiency tools, resources and incentives for residents and businesses.

Continue to expand and promote available water conservation programs.

MID TERM

Develop a campaign to encourage benchmarking of commercial water consumption through the use of data tracking software.

Employ a targeted outreach strategy to engage facility managers and property owners on water conservation efforts and resources.

Develop, market to the community and update Louisville guiding documents that address water conservation and quality.

Maintain regional partnerships, collaboration and information sharing as it pertains to watershed health and supply

NEAR TERM

Engage in local source-water protection planning.

Continue to support the Keep It Clean Partnership and other intergovernmental agreements in minimizing pollution impacts in surface waters.

MID TERM

Coordinate with Boulder County on model greywater (water reuse) ordinance.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

RECLAIMED WATER

Recycled water is wastewater treated to a standard that is suitable for irrigation and reuses water that would otherwise be lost downstream. Currently, Coal Creek Golf Course, Community Park, Miners Field and the Sports Complex are all currently served by recycled water and utilize all available capacity.



COMMUNITY IN ACTION



A Louisville resident's finished replacement.

GRASS TO GARDEN

Through partnership with Resource Central, water customers have the opportunity to swap 200 sq ft of maintained grass for a low-water, pollinator-friendly 'softscape' garden. Through the popular Grass to Garden program, water customers can receive a free Garden In A Box, a free Rain Bird Retrofit Kit to convert spray irrigation to drip irrigation if needed and a library of 'how to' guides and resources. Softscape gardens use up to 60% less water than traditional grass lawns and are a great option for low-use areas like sidewalk strips.



Ecological Health





INTRODUCTION

The City of Louisville owns or jointly owns 2,000 acres of open lands that serve a wide variety of purposes and values. Each open space property is designated with one or more classifications: Preserve, Protect, Visitor and Other. These lands provide invaluable habitat for many species of wildlife and plant communities, offer miles of trail system and enhance the livability and resiliency of Louisville.

As steward of these resources, protecting natural and cultural resources and providing opportunities for citizens to reconnect with nature and their cultural heritage is a priority for the community.



250

species of mammals, birds and reptiles in Louisville



38

years of Tree City USA designation



32

miles of trail system

GOAL

Mitigate the impact of the built environment and human behavior on our natural systems and improve the health and resiliency of Louisville’s ecosystems.





INTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Manage the City's parks, open space, rights-of-way and other properties to maximize ecological health and biological diversity

NEAR TERM

Evaluate existing tree canopy as well as management and replacement plan.

Expand the planting of pollinator-friendly native plants in parks and public spaces.

Consider nontoxic management practices for pest and weed control in conjunction with Integrated Weed Management Plan.

Consider testing alternative management techniques on pilot sites.

MID TERM

Update the Open Space Master Plan and address environmental sustainability as well as new trends such as food production on open space and ecosystem services.

Identify opportunities to enhance policies related to ecological health and continue to develop implementation measures for policies already in place

MID TERM

Further integrate ecosystem health and biodiversity factors in City plans and policies and consider during the initial stages of the planning process.



EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Facilitate community-wide stewardship and increase awareness of the value of ecosystem health.

NEAR TERM

Continue to provide environmental education programs for residents of all backgrounds and ages.

Integrate environmental education into community events i.e. Open House, Labor Day, etc.

Identify opportunities for interpretive signage and on-site messaging in Louisville's parks, natural areas and public spaces.

MID TERM

Work with the Colorado State Cooperative Extension and other organizations to develop urban agriculture stewardship standards.

Minimize the volume of pollutants entering Louisville's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

NEAR TERM

Support ecological stream restoration and in-stream flow efforts to aid species recovery and improve water quality.

Promote nontoxic best management practices for pest and weed control where possible in conjunction with City practices.

MID TERM

Consider enacting policies that limit the use of systemic persistent neurotoxins linked to declines in invertebrate species and pollinators.

Increase awareness of the impacts associated with the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and other toxins on pollinator species and overall ecological health through education.



EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Maintain existing trails and add additional miles of trails

NEAR TERM

Maintain all existing Louisville trails.

Update the Parks, Open Space and Trails Map.

Complete Kestrel trail to SH 42 Underpass connection.

MID TERM

Add more connectivity trails where appropriate as outlined in the Transportation Master Plan while preserving wildlife and other natural resources.

Consider the addition of trail amenities on high-use trails such as wayfinding and informational signage, fix-it stations, benches and appropriate waste receptacles.

LOUISVILLE WILDLIFE

With habitat for nearly 250 species of mammals, birds and reptiles identified in Louisville, the parks, open spaces and trail properties are a place for enjoyment as well as for the wildlife. Urban-adapted species such as coyotes, red foxes, raccoons, prairie dogs and skunks are commonly seen while there is also the opportunity to encounter a Swainson's Hawk, American Kestrel or Great-Horned Owl.





LEADING BY EXAMPLE



GOLF COURSE AUDOBON DESIGNATION

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COMMUNITY IN ACTION



VOLUNTEERING ON OPEN SPACE

Volunteers are a critical part of our community. Throughout the year, there many volunteer opportunities at our open spaces. Here, volunteers participated at a Pulling for Colorado event at Davidson Mesa focused on Common Mullein, a List C species on the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. Hand pulling and clipping seed heads are just two methods we use as part of our Integrated Weed Management Plan to combat noxious weeds on Open Space.



Local Food & Agriculture

Photo:
Louisville Community Garden by
Mary Ann Heaney



INTRODUCTION

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GOAL

Ensure a sustainable, local, safe and healthy food supply that is accessible to all and supported by our community.





EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Develop system of City-supported community gardens.

NEAR TERM

Evaluate barriers to community garden development in Louisville.

Consider policies or programs to remove barriers to community garden and urban agriculture development in Louisville.

MID TERM

Evaluate available opportunities to pursue an additional community garden on city owned property or through private-public partnership.

Offer education and outreach on local food and agriculture

NEAR TERM

Provide presentations about Louisville agricultural and backyard gardening resources to interested classes, agencies and organizations.

Provide local food and agricultural resources and information via social, web and print platforms.

Provide education and resources regarding pollinator guardianship.

MID TERM

Coordinate with local producers to provide resources and educational opportunities.

Expand connections between local food producers, residents and commercial entities within Louisville and Boulder County.



EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

Increase accessibility of local food for vulnerable populations

NEAR TERM

Identify existing local food assets and gaps throughout the City.

Assess barriers to local food production and purchase.

MID TERM

Foster relationships between the City, existing food stores, commercial entities and neighborhood residents to encourage expansion of local food availability.

Support and promote opportunities for all residents to participate in community supported agriculture and other programs.

Evaluate programs such as Double Up Food Bucks that make low-cost, locally grown fruits and vegetables available to vulnerable populations.

COMMUNITY IN ACTION



GET TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL FARM

Each year the City's Open Space Division celebrates Colorado Ag Day by partnering with 7th Generation Farm. The event boasts free farm tours, hay rides, kids planting activities, history presentations and more!



COMMUNITY IN ACTION



LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN

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APPENDIX A - STRATEGY PRIORITY MATRIX

The Sustainability Action Plan update seeks to identify new objectives and strategies to impact the six topics areas within the plan. Of the policies, programs and projects, some have greater opportunity for impact and have been identified below. Among these, some require more resources, some require greater operational effort and some will have variable impact on the triple bottom line approach detailed previously in the City's sustainability vision. While greater impact strategies are highlighted in the strategy priority matrix, it should be noted that all strategies, both near and mid-term, detailed throughout the plan are necessary steps forward to meet our sustainability vision and topic area goals.

The identified priority strategies meet one or more of the following conditions: policy changes or programmatic enhancements that achieve high impact or build necessary foundation for other strategies; partnerships already identified and/or engaged; time sensitive due to partner and/or regional context; lesser operational and financial resources; and addresses multiple impact areas of sustainability.



	Description	Objective	Cost	Level of Impact	Staff Effort	Partners	Notes	Triple Bottom Line
Climate	Explore a mandatory or voluntary benchmarking requirement for commercial entities.	External	\$\$	High	High	Boulder County PACE Xcel Energy Regional municipalities	Denver, Fort Collins and Boulder have all implemented benchmarking policies. There have been initial discussions regionally.	
	Identify barriers to renewable energy participation and facilitate implementation.	External	\$\$\$	High	High	Boulder County PACE Xcel Energy Regional municipalities		
	Ensure all departments and employees understand their role in achieving the climate vision and goals of City Council.	Internal	\$	High	Medium	None	Strategy is in progress with further integration work needed (i.e. Green Team development, communications, etc.)	
Energy + Water	Collect, track and report energy and water use data for all municipal buildings.	Internal	\$	High	Medium	Xcel Energy	Strategy is in progress.	
	Implement facility audit recommendations with consideration of resource limitations and other constraints.	Internal	\$\$\$	High	Medium	Xcel Energy Colorado Energy Office	Audits are in progress. Energy efficiency decreases consumption. Grants and ESCO financing are available.	

APPENDIX A - STRATEGY PRIORITY MATRIX

	Description	Objective	Cost	Level of Impact	Staff Effort	Partners	Notes	
Water	Develop and employ targeted outreach to engage facility managers and property owners on energy and water conservation program and efforts.	External	\$\$	High	Medium	Boulder County PACE Xcel Energy Resource Central	Commercial entities and multi-family units provide an opportunity for more robust outreach and programmatic support as high emitters.	
	Expand and promote available water conservation programs.	External	\$\$	High	Low	Boulder County PACE Resource Central	Current water programs available do not provide robust water conservation strategies for Louisville businesses.	
	Begin the development of a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan.	External	\$\$	Medium	High	Boulder County Colorado Water Conservation Board	According to the EPA, stormwater pollution is the number one source of water pollution in the country. This strategy was outlined in the 2016 plan.	
Waste	Assess existing purchases and contracts to identify opportunities to transition to sustainable products and vendors.	Internal	\$\$\$	Medium	High	Boulder County PACE CDPHE Regional municipalities	Time sensitive as municipalities across the Front Range are in process of evaluating purchasing and procurement policies.	
	Evaluate policies and implement incentives to encourage commercial entities to adopt zero waste collection.	External	\$\$	High	High	Local businesses Boulder County PACE CDPHE Regional municipalities		
Transportation	Continue efforts and build-out surrounding recommended actions within the Transportation Master Plan (TMP).	External	\$\$\$	High	High	As identified in the TMP	Strategy is in progress.	
	Pursue Bronze or Silver Bicycle-Friendly Community status.	External	\$	Medium	Medium	None		
	Evaluate EV-ready building code adoption.	External	\$	High	Medium	Boulder County PACE Xcel Energy		

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

2020 WORKPLAN*

MONTH	TOPIC AREA / PROJECT UPDATE / PRESENTATION
JANUARY 15, 2020	2020 LSAB OVERVIEW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New member introductions/welcome • Processes and Procedures (STAFF LIAISON) • 2020 Work Plan overview 2019 WRAP UP 2019 SUSTAINABILITY HIGHLIGHTS (STAFF) 2021/2022 LSAB BUDGET REQUEST
FEBRUARY 19, 2020	SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE – FIRST DRAFT REVIEW
MARCH 18, 2020	SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE – SECOND DRAFT REVIEW 2020 SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION + ENGAGEMENT – input/support
APRIL 15, 2020	SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN UPDATING CHECK IN 2020 SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION + ENGAGEMENT – input/support
MAY 20, 2020	2020 GREEN BUSINESS (LSAB/PACE) - update SUSTAINABILITY FILM SERIES
JUNE 17, 2020	CC4CA UPDATE (CMO) Energy Future Collaboration (SUSTAINABILITY SPECIALIST) - update 2019 Louisville Community Energy Report (XCEL) - update
JULY 15, 2020	TBD
AUGUST 19, 2020	TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN (PLANNING) – update FALL SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS/PROGRAMS/COMMUNICATIONS – input/support
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020	TBD ENERGY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFC 2021 Work Plan Development – Input from 2020 Work Plan
OCTOBER 21, 2020	TBD
NOVEMBER 18, 2020	TBD 2021 PLANNING/IMPLEMENTATION
DECEMBER 16, 2020	2020 WRAP UP + END OF YEAR EVALUATION 2021 WORK PLAN REVIEW

* This is a tentative work plan for 2020. Work plan is subject to change depending on internal or external demand or necessity and is to be evaluated for changes during LSAB monthly meetings.