

Advisory Working Group Memo

Advisory Working Group Name: Advancing Sustainability

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Objectives:

- Mitigate climate change: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions per 2040 carbon neutrality goal.
- Adapt to climate change: Build resilience
- Build civic and economic infrastructure and social equity

State of Play:

Climate change is threatening our viability as a healthy community and long-term drought may be the new normal for Santa Fe. Problems in the areas of water, energy use, transportation and food arise. This is a progressive community with many resources to meet the challenges that climate change has brought. We must prioritize actions to conserve resources and increase resilience.

Action Items:

1. Increase water conservation with more stringent restrictions in times of limited surface water resources to proactively protect ground water resources for community resilience in response to future water supply limitations. Milestones: c, i, m, n, o, v
2. Solarize City facilities where it makes financial sense, including through public private partnerships, pursuant to Resolution 2018-15 (Renewable Energy RFI) and Resolution No. 2017-61 (Develop Feasibility for 100% Renewables). Milestones: d, w
3. Form coalition of cities and counties to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy at legislature and PRC to represent interests of residents. Milestones: a, b, e
4. Create a City Office of Sustainability vested with the authority to coordinate implementation of policies and plans across the City. Milestones: g, h, o
5. Convert additional City vehicles to electric vehicles this year, make plan for maximum conversions annually and support adoption of EVs in the community. Milestones: j, z
6. Increase access to and use of public transit with free transit and last mile solutions. Milestones: k, q, r
7. Strengthen local food economy and access to local, healthy, affordable food by increasing locally grown and locally processed foods in schools, senior centers, public institutions, and businesses. Milestones: l, p, s, t, u, y
8. Ensure all road projects include bike and pedestrian safety for safe, walkable neighborhoods. Milestones: k
9. Expand energy conservation in City, commercial and residential building and facilities. Milestones: f, x
10. Permanently fund Verde Fund and expand impact through partnerships. Milestones: p

Viewpoints:

Given the wide range of challenges, every citizen is affected, and there are numerous government, civic, business, non-profit and community organizations that need to be involved.

Milestones

6-month:

- a. Collaborate immediately in PRC cases with short-term deadlines that could affect City's energy options, such as the El Paso Electric community solar and PNM's energy efficiency filings.
- b. Formalize coalition of likeminded Cities and Counties, like Albuquerque, to intervene in future PRC cases and support clean energy policy in the 2019 legislature.
- c. Audit City water use and implement straightforward conservation measures.
- d. Receive proposals for solarization of City facilities including financing options.
- e. Pass resolutions and assign legislative priority to support renewable energy legislation such as on Community Solar, battery storage, expanded renewable portfolio standard, and competitive procurement by utilities in the next legislative session.
- f. Adopt 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).
- g. Create and staff Office of Sustainability.
- h. Create internal Sustainability Council, coordinated through the Office of Sustainability, constituted of key staff so that all departments are working toward sustainability and implementing resolutions and codes.
- i. Formalize a collaborative structure to work on water and sustainability with the County (like the Food Policy Council) to leverage resources and realize outcomes.
- j. Amend existing ESCO contract to include purchase of 50 electric vehicles and 5 publicly available car charging stations.
- k. Include bike and pedestrian facilities in all currently funded road projects.
- l. Train youth in year-round local food production and showcase at National Farm to School Month.

9-month:

- m. Update emergency drought ordinance to adjust triggers for mandatory water conservation and reduce reliance on non-renewable ground water supplies.
- n. Reduce commercial water consumption with focus on hospitality and healthcare through incentivized and prescribed methods in coordination with the Green Chamber pilot project.
- o. Implement triple bottom line (social, economic, environmental) decision making criteria methodology already in the Sustainable Santa Fe Plan for departments to use.
- p. Permanently fund Verde Fund at minimum \$300,000 per year (Resolution 2016-42).
- q. Institute free use of Santa Fe Trails and para-transit.
- r. Evaluate and make recommendations to address last mile transit options such as using rideshare or bicycle access to get people from the bus to their office or home.
- s. Establish baseline for measuring progress on local food economy as recommended in the Food Policy Council Food Economy Report.
- t. Direct City staff to purchase local fresh produce in senior centers and other public facilities, for example, by utilizing school contracts.
- u. Champion buy local outreach campaigns and the New Mexico Grown legislation to encourage public and private entities to purchase local fresh produce and locally produced food, for example through expansion of the Import Replacement project with the Green Chamber of Commerce.

12-month:

- v. Expand loan, rebate, incentive program to install drip irrigation and water conservation measures on private property. For low to moderate income (LMI) households, provide loans through Homewise or other public or private programs.
- w. Solarize Airport and all feasible City facilities.
- x. Secure funding & partners for direct installation of energy efficiency measures for LMI homes.
- y. Amend City procurement code to prioritize purchases of locally grown fruits, vegetables and locally processed foods, including food vendor contracts at City facilities.
- z. Continue and expand EV purchasing for community use, like the Nissan Fleetail program.

4-year vision: The actions recommended will have been implemented and the City will be able to report on measurable results that increase the resiliency and sustainability of our community.

Resource People: Groups include the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission, Food Policy Council, Santa Fe County, Chainbreakers, Bicycle Trails Advisory Committee, Green Chamber of Commerce, etc.