



Council Memorandum

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Theresa Worsham, Sustainability Manager
Through: Jason Slowinski, City Manager
Date: February 12, 2021
Re: Community Sustainability Advisory Board (CSAB) 2021 Work Plan

Mission of CSAB: City of Golden in defining and achieving its sustainability goals and to empower the community to live in a way that assures a high quality of life for current and future generations.

2020 Accomplishments: CSAB had a very active planning year that started with community participation in prioritizing projects and concluded with implementation of several key programs. Accomplishments include:

- The Board held at least 25 meetings of Citizen Task Forces, with more than 80 participants providing thoughtful conversation to help the Board prioritize policies and programs for recommendation in the next several years.
- Evaluation and adoption of Golden's graywater ordinance for a Laundry to Landscape program, the first of its kind in Colorado and a model for small communities.
- Adoption of the GoEV campaign, a comprehensive commitment by the City to make progress toward electrifying transportation through support for new public and private electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Start of a new greenhouse gas emissions inventory update as a follow up to the original 2007 inventory. A contractor is selected and the report is intended to be complete in spring 2021.
- A comprehensive set of sustainability metrics and graphics were created for use with the latest goals.
- Successful collaboration with Planning Commission and the City's Water Department on joint efforts to address green building codes, renewable energy and water conservation.
- Initial groundwork laid to work together with Jefferson County and the Rooney Road Household Hazardous Waste Center to re-establish a regional compost drop off site.
- Input collected from Golden restaurants and a compostable takeout container

rebate program created to reduce Styrofoam use.

- Support for a community culture of sustainability through publishing experiences of local experts and residents.

2021 Board Goals: CSAB discussed near-term and ongoing initiatives at their December 9th annual retreat and January 27th regular meeting and offers the following 2021 CSAB Work Plan for Council's consideration.

The Board's priorities for 2021 are divided into three categories: water, waste and energy strategies. The 2021 initiatives are summarized in the attached table and in some cases, the initial implementation has already begun, including work toward soliciting bids and making recommendations to City Council for selecting a contractor for the next five year contract of the Pay-As-You-Throw program, collaborating with Planning Commission to research and make recommendations for updating the City's sustainable building codes, and finalizing a greenhouse gas emissions inventory update.

The Board included consideration for how these projects could be SMARTIE goals (Strategic Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic, Time-bound, Inclusive and Equitable), success factor for how they may fit into Council's latest Strategic Plan, and identified potential community partners to emphasize the Board's practice of cooperation and collaboration.

Recommendations for 2021 Appointments: The Board's terms are staggered on even years and this year, there are no terms scheduled for expiration.

Additional Information: While the Board's main priorities are shown in the attached table, CSAB would also like to pursue several emerging issues under the scope of sustainability.

- To reinvigorate the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City, CSM, NREL, and the Department of Energy to collaborate on mutually beneficial sustainability projects, as outlined in Resolution No. 2004, approved by Council in 2009. Specifically, the Board is collaborating on a federal grant application with CSM to research and determine the feasibility of an energy district for the campus and potentially for the benefit of surrounding neighborhoods.
- To develop stronger relationships with the Golden business community including the Chamber, DDA, GURA for the purposes of supporting economic health initiatives that support sustainable businesses.
- To ensure initiatives of Golden's sustainability past remain a priority, such as economic health, transportation, Golden's local living economy and to explore other issues related to sustainability, including natural environments, pesticide use, odor concerns, invasive plants, the wildlife-urban interface, and flooding.

The Board thanks Council for its consideration and looks forward to any input and feedback on the draft work plan.

2021 CSAB Goals

Initiative	Timeline	Description	Measures of Effectiveness	CSAB Lead
Energy				
Recommend energy-related building code updates to City Council	Q1	Complete and implement the new Energy Code consultant contract, providing assistance to homeowners and developers and city staff to interpret and comply with current energy code requirements.	Kilowatt hours of electricity saved, therms of natural gas reduced, kilowatt hours of solar electricity generated	Tanja Rauch-Williams Micah Allen
	Q1-Q4	CSAB will continue to work with Planning Commission on updating the existing zoning codes to propose changes for working toward net zero new construction. The Board will engage a consultant to address new and existing buildings. Partners: development community, Jeffco Housing Authority, homeowners.		
	Q1-Q4	Continue rebate programs for residents and businesses for energy efficiency, electrification and renewable energy projects.		
Analyze Community Solar Gardens	Q1-Q3	Evaluate feasibility and interconnection, use CSM student studies to engage professional designs and issue RFP to solicit interest.	Kilowatt hours of solar electricity generated and at least one CSG operational by 2022	Ken Jacobs, Jill Engel-Cox
	Q1	Support use of Rooney site for community solar and slash collection through ongoing meetings with Jefferson County to retain leased area of 15 acres, approved by Golden voters in 2017. Partners: Jeffco Sustainability Commission and staff.		
	Q4	Identify options of ownership or partnerships to maximize cost benefit to Golden and subscribers, including a key focus on inclusion for low income, renters and small business subscribers.		
Update the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory	Q1	Update the 2007 inventory and calculate the equivalent GHG reduction achievements for goals and evaluate progress in terms of GHG reductions.	Completed inventory report	Jill Engel-Cox, Micah Allen
Adopt an Electric Vehicle Master Plan	Q4	Work with city departments to evaluate and create a decision-making matrix to inform a new municipal plan and begin other outreach to partners (RTD, CSM, Jeffco R-1 school district, and Xcel Energy) for improvements to regional electric vehicle charging infrastructure.	Reduced vehicle miles traveled	Tanja Rauch-Williams, Ken Jacobs
Waste				
Address Single Use Plastics and Styrofoam	Q2	Continue to promote restaurant rebates for compostable takeout containers, recommend support for state legislative bills to address plastics, and research and make recommendations to limit the use of	Pounds diverted from the landfill	Tanja Rauch-Williams, Micah Allen

		single use plastics and/or Styrofoam. Partners: residents who volunteered on the single use plastics task force, CC4CA, state legislators who may propose bills to address the issue.		
Evaluate the Residential waste & recycling (Pay-As-You-Throw) program	Q2	Include input from waste task forces to request bids on alternative services, including compost options. Evaluate and present best options to Council for contract consideration. Partners: households in and outside the program, HOAs, multifamily complexes.	Pounds diverted from the landfill	Bill Lucas-Brown, Jeremy Nichols
Create a zero waste plan for City operations	Q1	With input from City staff, consolidate and formalize efforts including green purchasing policy, composting at special events and recycling and composting services throughout municipal buildings. Partners: event organizers, waste haulers.	Pounds diverted from the landfill	Bill Lucas-Brown, Jeremy Nichols
Evaluate and recommend expansion of recycling and compost services to all multifamily and commercial areas	Q2	Reach out to multifamily areas, homeowner associations to collect input on needs and challenges. Analyze legal concerns and propose amendments to municipal code to widen access. Access to recycling and composting services is an equity issue and expansion beyond single family residential areas is important.	Pounds of recyclables and compostables diverted from the landfill	Bill Lucas-Brown, Jeremy Nichols
Evaluate other potential waste streams for diversion	Q3	Identify and quantify existing waste streams for hazardous materials and potential assistance needs for small quantity generators. Partners: CSM students.	Pounds diverted from the landfill	Jill Engel-Cox
Water				
Implement Graywater Program	Q1	Construct three residential pilot projects, evaluate and publish results and collect data for recommendation to Council for potential expansion of the ordinance for all new construction.	Completion of projects and case studies published on website	Tanja Rauch-Williams
Research and evaluate energy and resource recovery potential from wastewater	Q1-Q3	Contact and collaborate with MillerCoors on potential areas of opportunity to recover resources and capture energy or heat from processes.	Continued conversations with MillerCoors representatives	Tanja Rauch-Williams, Micah Allen
Incentivize smart technology for outdoor water irrigation	Q2	Use feedback from the 2020 Water Task Force to create an incentive program and/or requirements for outdoor water conservation in residential, commercial and municipal properties.	Gallons of water conserved	Carol Russell
Adopt a water resiliency plan to prepare for potentially drier futures	Q4	Collaborate with water department, other boards and commissions to identify resiliency best practices and create/update a water resiliency plan.	Publish plans on City website for public information.	Tanja Rauch-Williams