

# ***Sustainability Advisory Board***

## ***Agenda***

**November 15, 2023**  
**Louisville Public Library, Second Floor Board Room**  
**951 Spruce Street**  
**6:30 PM**

*Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.*

- *You can call in to +1 408 638 0968 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)*  
*Meeting ID #829 8194 5389*  
*Meeting Password # 741017*
- *You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: [www.louisvilleco.gov/sustainabilityboard](http://www.louisvilleco.gov/sustainabilityboard).*

*The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at [KBetzold@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:KBetzold@LouisvilleCO.gov).*

- I. Call to Order
  - Dan is November secretary.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda – 10 minutes
  - 3 minutes per comment
- VI. Staff Updates – 10 minutes
- VII. Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan Ideas – 45 minutes

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Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303.335-4536 or [MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov). A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

- Staff Update
- Board Member Presentation(s)
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion

VIII. Discussion Item: December LSAB Meeting – 15 minutes

- Staff and Chair Update
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion

IX. Sub-Committee and Board Member Updates

X. Administrative Tasks

- Staff to write next Spotlight, due November 15
- December Meeting Canceled – Collaboration with Lafayette and Superior on Thursday, December 7 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Louisville City Hall, Council Chambers

XI. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

XII. Adjourn

# ***Sustainability Advisory Board***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

**September 20, 2023**

**Louisville Public Library, Second Floor Board Room**

**951 Spruce Street**

**6:30 PM**

**Call to Order** – Acting Chairperson Josh Cooperman called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

**Roll Call** was taken and the following members were present:

Board Members Present: Tiffany Boyd (remote), Todd Budin, Josh Cooperman, John Cowley, Dan Mellish

Board Members Absent: Megan Ottesen

Staff Members Present: Kayla Betzold

### **Approval of Agenda –**

Dan moved to approve the agenda; Tiffany seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by all members.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes –**

Tiffany moved to approve the meeting minutes; Dan seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by all members.

### **Public Comments –**

RJ Harrington: R.J. offered several brief comments: (1) He wanted to clarify a statement from a previous meeting that his home is fully electrified not just because it uses a heat pump, but because in addition it has all electric appliances, plus solar panels and an electric vehicle. (2) He inquired how we all

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#### ***City of Louisville***

*City Manager's Office 749 Main Street Louisville CO 80027*  
*303.335.4534 (phone) www.LouisvilleCO.gov*

could create momentum toward encouraging City Council to approve the Resolution to move forward with major aspects of the recently completed Internal Decarbonization Plan. (3) He is still not clear how residents like himself can learn about the ongoing work of the Community Decarbonization Plan.

**Staff Update –**

Kayla reported that City Council received an update on the ongoing Community Decarbonization Plan at their meeting on Sept. 19th. Kayla listed a number of activities scheduled to take place during October: Oct 2: There will be a meeting to discuss the Dark Sky initiative for Louisville, Oct. 7: Ecotoberfest, to be held at Community Park. (Board member Tiffany expressed interest in applying for a booth at that event.), Oct. 10: City Council will hold a study session in preparation for its decision whether to approve a Resolution to move ahead with the Internal Decarbonization Plan, and which parts of the Plan to prioritize, Oct. 25: Solar United Neighbors will hold a second outreach meeting, this one at the Boulder Library, to attract additional potential participants for their bulk purchase for rooftop solar for area residents. (Solar United’s previous meeting, at the Lafayette Library, was well attended.)

**Discussion Item – Annual Sustainability Update**

Kayla presented to the Sustainability Advisory Board her preliminary overview of the past year’s progress on Key Sustainability Performance Indicators and Climate Action Goals. This presentation consisted of 14 charts addressing a range of sustainability issues, including some that fall within the City Council’s Work Plan for 2023, and some that carry over into their Work Plan draft for 2024.

This preliminary presentation (contained in the document: LSAB September Packet 9202.pdf) can be found online (at <https://www.louisvilleco.gov/local-government/government/boards-commissions/sustainability-advisory-board>) under “Meeting Agendas & Packets”, for September 20, 2023. [The original file name for this packet was “LSAB\_September Packet 9.20.23.pdf”]

A revised version of this presentation will be delivered to Louisville’s City Council later in the fall. At the meeting, Kayla presented a modified version of the above set of presentation charts showing some additions and corrections.

*Public Comment*

RJ Harrington: R.J. recommended that the full emissions be clearly reported, followed with explanations of how the City incorporates the external carbon-free sources to compensate for residual carbon emissions from its use of electricity from Xcel Energy’s grid.

*LSAB Discussion*

Regarding the chart titled “Discussion Item: Annual Sustainability Update - Reporting”, John was curious that the entry “Sustainability Key Performance Indicators – Community GHG emissions” was so much lower than the GHG emissions listed for Louisville in the 2021 Boulder County GHG Report.

Kayla explained that her tally of Louisville’s GHG emissions (carbon footprint) included only the emissions from the electricity and natural-gas usage reported by Xcel Energy in its annual community reports. Thus, emissions from transportation (and other sources) compiled in Boulder County’s report are not included, for the sake of consistency in her reporting.

Regarding the entry “Internal and Community Decarbonization Plans (high priority)” in the chart titled “Discussion Item: Annual Sustainability Update –City Council Work Plan”, Tiffany asked if it were possible to create a few basic, high-level charts that would convey to City Council the clear value of adopting the Resolution to proceed with the Internal Decarbonization Plan. Several attendees agreed to consider ways to do this.

Regarding the chart “Discussion Item: Annual Sustainability Update –Regional Groups”, members expressed admiration that Kayla has been able to maintain productive relations with this large list of regional organizations which are focused on various aspects of climate change and sustainability issues.

John commented that the value of all these local organizations could be judged by answering the question, “How much carbon dioxide have their activities prevented?” Another view of their value could be that, being well established, they could serve as a network to help respond to a future climate crisis.

Regarding a chart that included some last-minute updates, Kayla expressed ambivalence about how best to report the continuing “100% carbon-free electricity” that the City of Louisville has achieved during recent years. Some of this fully-renewable electricity has depended on City lease agreements with area solar farms, and also with purchases of WindSource power from Xcel Energy, to make up for the carbon-base of grid-derived electricity that the City necessarily uses (which is 48% carbon-based, as of 2023).

**Sub-Committee and Board Member Updates –**

None

**Administrative Tasks –**

Kayla encouraged Sustainability Advisory Board members to attend the City Council meeting (scheduled for Oct. 10) to support the approval of the Resolution to proceed with the Internal Decarbonization Plan.

Kayla asked Board members to bring to the upcoming November meeting their suggestions for tasks to include in Sustainability’s Work Plan for 2024.

Kayla announced that LSAB would not hold a meeting in December because of the date's proximity to the holidays, but instead there would be a joint meeting with Lafayette's and Superior's sustainability organizations in early December.

**Discussion Items for Next Meeting –**

The Board did not further discuss such items.

**Adjourn –**

Josh moved to adjourn the meeting and Tiffany seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



## Memorandum

**To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board**  
**From: Kayla Betzold, Sustainability Manager**  
**Date: November 15, 2023**  
**Re: Staff Updates**

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### *Projects and Programs*

- The Green Business Program Recognition event will be held on Thursday, December 14 from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. at the Lafayette Public Library. This event is open to all businesses and to the public.
- The Northern Water landscape templates will be unveiled at an open house event on Monday, December 11 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Louisville Recreation & Senior Center. These firewise/waterwise templates can be used by residents rebuilding from the Marshall Fire or for any new development on the Front Range.
- The new bag tax programs are launching in January 2024 and are open to all businesses that have remitted bag tax. The \$1,000 zero waste grant has been expanded to a more broad sustainability grant and can be used for any commercial sustainability project, including decarbonization.
- The new EE/electrification rebates are available on the [EnergySmart website](#). Find more detailed information about eligible measures [here](#).
  - These rebates are highlighted in the Winter Community Update, November e-newsletter and November utility bill insert.
  - Louisville will be adding electric panel upgrade rebates to the current list of rebates in January 2024.
- The renewable energy portfolio is published and available on the City's Sustainability [Energy sub-page](#).
  - This portfolio will be included in the Winter Community Update.
  - Windsorce has been rolled into the new Renewable Connect Flex program is open for enrollment. Program costs have decreased from .015/kWh to .01/kWh. Customers can enroll in RC Flex using [this form](#) and emailing it to [renewableconnectco@xcelenergy.com](mailto:renewableconnectco@xcelenergy.com). Subscribing in this program will increase Louisville's percentage of renewable energy (unlike solar gardens). The renewable energy portfolio is being updated to reflect this change.





#### *Council Work Plan Items*

- The City's Comprehensive Plan project has begun. Stay up to date with the project [here](#).
- The annual sustainability update will be presented to Council on Tuesday, December 5.

#### *Grants*

- The City was awarded \$2,500,000 from the Department of Local Affairs to support Recreation & Senior Center decarbonization.
- The City was awarded \$5,000 from Boulder County Resource Conservation Division to transition municipal employee kitchens from disposable to reusable products.

#### *LSAB*

- **Canceling December LSAB Meeting** – Collaboration with Lafayette and Superior on Thursday, December 7 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Louisville City Hall, Council Chambers
- January meeting – welcome new LSAB members, finalize 2024 LSAB work plan



# **Sustainability Advisory Board**

November 2023

Kayla Betzold, Sustainability Manager

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan Ideas – Staff Update

- Overview of draft Sustainability Division Work Plan
  - 2025/2026 budget
  - Municipal projects
    - Internal Decarb Plan implementation
    - Reusables transition
    - E-bike share
  - Community Decarb Plan implementation
    - Residential and commercial outreach/programs/rebates/outreach
  - Commercial programs
    - Bag tax funded programs
    - Lawn replacement

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan Ideas - Timeline

- 2 weeks before November meeting (Wednesday, November 1)
  - Email Kayla with your idea(s) you plan to present to the board at the November meeting
- 1 week before November meeting (Wednesday, November 8)
  - Packet content (slides, additional information) due to Kayla
  - Be prepared for a 10 minute presentation that includes:
    - High-level overview of topic/project/idea
    - Alignment with Sustainability Action Plan and/or Climate Action Goals
    - Costs and benefits
    - Potential GHG emission reductions

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan Ideas – LSAB Role

## **Advise & Recommend**

- Provide feedback to staff regarding programs, projects, etc.
- Sustainability budget requests
- Council work plan recommendations
- Letters of support for Council policy discussions
- Additional memos to Council/City leadership that state group recommendations

## **Research & Analysis**

- Vetting ideas through cost/benefit analysis, alignment with City plans, equity lens, etc.
- Prepping for future budget requests/work plan ideas

## **Outreach & Engagement**

- Coordination with partners and community members
- Distribution of materials
- Monthly eNewsletter
- Other ideas



# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan – Board Member Ideas

## (Primary) 2024 Sustainability Work Plan Recommendation: Provide Monthly Oversight of Internal Decarb Progress

1

Why many scientists are now saying climate change is an all-out 'emergency'

Escalating rhetoric comes as new study shows there are just six years left to keep global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius at current CO2 emissions rate  
Shannon Osaka, Washington Post, Oct. 30, 2023

*Climate Goal Deadline?  
5 Years, Researchers Say.*

New York Times, Oct. 31, 2023

**Earthweek\*:  
Diary of a Changing World**  
Week ending Oct. 27, 2023  
By Steve Newman

### On the Brink

In their stark assessment entitled *Life on Planet Earth is Under Siege*, they warn "minimal progress" has been made in curbing greenhouse gas emissions, currently at record levels.

\*Boulder Daily Camera, Oct. 30, 2023  
Excerpted paragraph

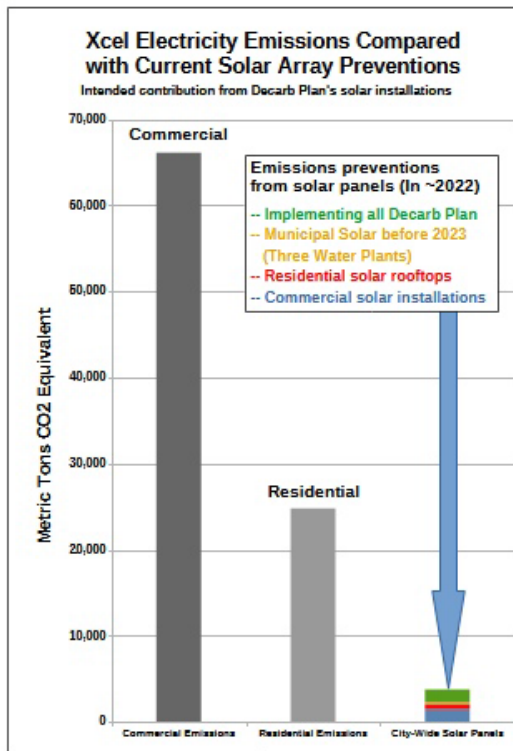
John Cowley, Nov. 7, 2023

- ▶ **Climate crisis: Motivation for the Decarbonization Plan**
- ▶ **Implementation is urgent:**
  - Solar power delivery & savings begins immediately
  - Xcel CO<sub>2</sub> from generation is prevented immediately
  - Future emergencies could interrupt funding
  - All delays would increase costs (inflation)
- ▶ **LSAB oversight could:**
  - Provide motivation for timely progress
  - Mobilize resources to overcome unforeseen delays
  - Assure that Planners' visions come to fruition

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan – Board Member Ideas

## (Primary) 2024 Sustainability Work Plan Recommendation: Provide Monthly Oversight of Internal Decarb Progress

2



### BENEFITS

- ▶ Decarb Plan's seven (7) solar arrays would further reduce city-wide carbon footprint (about 1.7%)
- ▶ Beginning the installations would send a message: Louisville is serious about climate change
- ▶ Visibility of installations could inspire positive acceptance of follow-on city-wide Decarbonization
- ▶ Energetic build-out would demonstrate City Government's strong managerial capability ("Tax dollars at work")

John Cowley, Nov. 7, 2023

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan – Board Member Ideas

(from 10/10/23 Council Presentation)

**If staff is directed to explore EPC –**

1. DOLA and CEO grant applications and awards
2. Execute non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with CEO
3. Issue RFP for project scope **or** leverage CEO's prequalification process
4. Staff selects energy service company (ESCO)
5. Finalize project design, equipment selection, scope and any on-going costs (O&M)
6. ESCO delivers final pricing and EPC construction proposal
7. RFP issued for loan total
8. Staff selects lender – final interest rates and loan terms are determined
9. Staff returns to Council with loan terms/loan agreement and EPC construction proposal for approval
10. Begin project implementation and secure Investment Tax Credits for solar (if applicable)



# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan – Board Member Ideas

## (Secondary) 2024 Sustainability Work Plan Recommendation: Promote Implementation of City-Wide Decarb Study

3

### *Study Finds Global Warming Is Increasing at a Faster Pace*

New York Times, Nov. 3, 2023

New York Times, Nov. 2, 2023 – Excerpt from Letter to Editor

As someone active in the climate struggle, I know that we must proceed on multiple levels. I can appreciate someone's not being a mass movement person, but the public has to begin to understand that individual acts, including recycling and buying electric cars, will *not* lower carbon emissions in time to save our plant, animal and human species.

And given the stakes, maybe a little climate anxiety is not so terrible.

VIRGINIA CASPER  
WEST SHOKAN, N.Y.

*The writer is on the coordinating committees of TIAA-Divest! and 1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations.*

John Cowley, Nov. 7, 2023

- ▶ **Review and set priorities on recommendations expected from City-Wide Decarbonization Study**
  - Prioritize by feasibility
  - Prioritize by carbon-reduction impact
  - Prioritize by residents' receptivity (aid by increasing outreach)
- ▶ **Develop a schedule and content for outreach materials:**
  - Quantify benefits to residents (including CO<sub>2</sub> reductions)
  - Inform residents about subsidies, rebates, long-term savings
- ▶ **Plan in-person activities to promote “electrification”**
  - Circulate frequent newsletter articles re: benefits & activities
  - Host monthly Induction Stove demos by area chefs (Held at Rec Center, commercial venues, etc.)
  - Sponsor frequent “house tours” showcasing heat pumps, etc.
  - Lead brain-storming sessions to develop other outreach ideas
- ▶ **Use metrics to track effectiveness of these promotions**
  - Record installation counts from vendors; Work Permits; etc.
  - Learn from and compare with what other area cities are doing

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan – Board Member Ideas

LSAB should create a succinct yet thorough document, intended to be distributed to residents (and potentially businesses), that details how to go about reducing one's carbon footprint.

# Discussion Item: LSAB 2024 Work Plan Ideas

Other ideas from board members?

Public Comment

- 3 minutes/comment

LSAB Discussion

- Which idea(s) do you support for LSAB's 2024 Work Plan?
- How specifically can LSAB support the idea?
  - Advise & recommend, research & analysis, outreach & engagement

# Discussion Item: December LSAB Meeting – Staff/Chair Update

Report out to Lafayette/Superior about LSAB's 2023 focus and work

- Things that went well this year –
  - Lawn mower rebates – Spring Cleaning Event
  - Residential EE/electrification rebates through EnergySmart
  - Internal Decarb Plan – LSAB support
  - Community Decarb Plan
  - Events? Ecotoberfest, Electrify Your Ride
  - MF rebuilding rebates
- Things that didn't go well this year –
  - Events? Sustainability Film Series, Electrify Your Ride
  - Dark Skies Ordinance
  - E-bike rebates
  - Finding volunteers for events

# Discussion Item: December LSAB Meeting

## Public Comment

- 3 minutes/comment

## LSAB Discussion

- Anything else to include in December report out?



# LSAB November 2023 Meeting

Sub-Committee and Board Member Updates

Administrative Tasks

- Staff to write next Sustainability Spotlight, due November 15
- Canceling December meeting – Collaboration with Lafayette and Superior on Thursday, December 7 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Louisville City Hall, Council Chambers

Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Adjourn