



2014-2016 Sustainability Plan

In keeping with the County Council's commitment to sustainability, the following draft plan has been prepared for review by Council. This 2014-2016 Plan builds on the successes of the previous three (3) years accomplishments and proposes actions needed to address unfinished goals in the 2011-2013 Sustainability Plan.

The 2014 Sustainability budget includes funds to conduct Phase II of a countywide GHG Reduction Study. The study will establish a comprehensive climate action planning effort, define the strategies, calculate potential benefits, and explore the costs and funding options for strategies. This more comprehensive climate action planning effort will help establish a countywide greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal.

Meanwhile, the Sustainability Coordinator recommends the following specific goals for Council's consideration:

2014-2016 Goals

- Reduce carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions of County operations
- Intensify energy efficiency in existing County facilities
- Raise fuel efficiency & reduce tailpipe emissions of County fleet
- Amplify the use of renewable energy countywide
- Foster energy efficiency of residential and commercial properties countywide
- Establish a comprehensive countywide climate action plan
- Influence maintenance of air and water quality
- Incorporate sustainability measures in Land Management

REDUCE CO₂ EQUIVALENT EMISSIONS OF COUNTY OPERATIONS

Action Items

- Complete 2010-2013 emissions reduction quantification analysis.
- Exceed 2013 emissions reduction goal by end of 2014.
- Set new carbon dioxide equivalent emissions reduction goal for County operations.
- Establish benchmarking measurement intervals toward CO₂ emissions reduction goal.
- Set up new utility and fuel tracking software to accurately monitor emissions reductions.

Action Summary:

Position Summit County for short-term reductions in GHG emissions and long-term plan for more significant reductions over time.

INTENSIFY ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF EXISTING COUNTY BUILDINGS

Action Items

Further increase energy efficiency of existing county buildings:

- Coordinate installation of \$348,000 worth energy efficiency and lighting upgrades to the County Justice Center and County Courthouse in Coalville.
- Track and verify expected energy and cost savings obtained annually (2013 – 2016).
- Quantify actual CO₂e emissions reduction annually and report to Council.
- Install 74 kW solar PV system on County's largest energy user (the Justice Center) that will accomplish the following:
 - generate approximately 107,000 kWh annually
 - reduce 75.5 metric tons of CO₂e emissions annually
 - repurpose approximately \$14,000/year in electricity cost saving
- Set up and train staff to utilize utility tracking software to accomplish the following:
 - Establish benchmarks to measure effectiveness of efficiency measures installed
 - Qualify as third-party verification of energy savings
 - Flag anomalies in billing for further investigation
 - Eliminate repetitive data entry of utility bills
 - Provide spreadsheet of utility bills for upload to Accounts Payable
 - Normalize energy usage for weather
 - Accurately monitor and provide instantaneous CO₂e emissions data

Action Summary:

Demonstrate cost savings from the implementation of energy efficiency measures that allow Summit County to repurpose funds for other services.

RAISE FUEL EFFICIENCY AND REDUCE TAILPIPE EMISSIONS OF COUNTY FLEET

Action Items

- Lead County Fleet Review Committee activities:
 - Increase number of CNG vehicles in County Fleet
 - Enact Vehicle Acquisition Policies established by Fleet Review Committee
- Continue replacing low fuel economy vehicles with higher fuel economy vehicles.
- Research additional alternative vehicle technologies appropriate for specific vehicles.
- Install CNG refueling appliance at Public Works.
- Quantify fuel cost savings and tailpipe emissions reduction attributable to CNG.
- Investigate alternatives to diesel powered transit buses.
- Reduce tailpipe emissions from Park City/Summit County jointly owned transit bus system.
- Coordinate fuel tracking software with Public Works vehicle maintenance software to:
 - Establish accurate accounting of Fleet fuel consumption and maintenance costs of each vehicle within every department
 - Provide instantaneous CO₂e emissions data

- Evaluate fuel efficiency analysis of vehicles
- Track emissions reduction attributable to CNG vehicles
- Simplify payment of fuel bills by downloading/uploading bills to Accounts Payable
- Flag billing anomalies for further investigation

Action Summary:

Position Summit County as a leader in the adoption of clean-burning transportation fuels that improve air quality and reduce fleet fuel cost.

AMPLIFY THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY COUNTYWIDE

Action Items

- Support Council’s pursuit of Community Choice Aggregate or a similar mechanism to provide renewable energy to Summit County residents.
- Evaluate and determine if the Summit Community Solar program should be modified and/or repeated to increase residential solar PV installations throughout Summit County.
- Adapt Summit Community Solar to install solar PV on commercial properties countywide.
- Work with municipalities to adopt/expand incentives for business and residents to install renewable energy.

Action Summary:

Lead Summit County residents in the adoption of renewable energy as a strategy for long-term emissions reduction, job creation, and utility cost savings that allow residents to invest more in their community.

FOSTER RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY COUNTYWIDE

A priority for 2014 is the development of a countywide residential energy efficiency/weatherization program. Partners already engaged in the initial research stage include Utah’s Weatherization Program and Single Family Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, U.S. Department of Agriculture - Rural Development Energy Efficiency Program, Habitat for Humanity, and non-profit affordable housing organizations.

Action Items

- Participate in the Georgetown University Energy Program competition to win \$5 million prize for a sustainable, replicable countywide residential energy efficiency and renewable energy program.
- Develop countywide residential energy efficiency program to reduce energy consumption of existing homes and new residential construction.
- Develop countywide commercial energy efficiency program to reduce energy consumption of existing businesses and commercial properties and new commercial construction.
- Establish mechanism to verify energy reduction of residential and commercial energy efficiency programs.

- Develop and implement mechanism to verify emissions reduction associated with residential and commercial energy efficiency upgrades.

Action Summary:

Assist Summit County residents in reducing energy consumption, lowering utility bills, reduce emissions and increasing the comfort level within their homes and businesses; contribute to economic vitality and provide jobs.

ESTABLISH A COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Action Items

- Conduct Phase II of countywide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction study and establish a comprehensive climate action planning effort, define the strategies, calculate potential benefits, and explore the costs and funding options for strategies.
- Set new countywide GHG emissions reduction target and bench-marking and reporting intervals.

Action Summary:

Position Summit County for short-term reductions in GHG emissions and establish a long-term plan for more significant reductions over time.

INFLUENCE THE MAINTENANCE OF AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Action Items

- Mobilize community partnerships to support Department of Health air and water quality initiatives.
- Assist in the dissemination of Summit County Health Department’s public education campaigns such as:
 - “Check Engine Light” public education campaign.
 - “Turn the Key - Be Idle Free”
- Advance Water Quality Advisory Committee recommendations.
- Champion emissions reduction strategies outlined in 2014-2016 Sustainability Plan.
- Spearhead countywide emissions reduction strategies that attract citizen participation.
- Expand air quality monitoring.

Action Summary:

Implement initiatives that help to maintain air quality and help ensure that water supplies remain safe, clean, and reliable.

INCORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES IN LAND MANAGEMENT

Action Items

- Ensure adoption of sustainability measures in Phase II updates to General Plan.
 - Acquire with BOSAC’s advice high priority open space.

- Adopt open space management plans.
- Coordinate with Transportation Planning.
- Adopt sustainability measures in updates to the Development Code
- Research environmental impacts and provide policy guidance related to, but not limited to, the following:
 - heated driveways;
 - large open gas flames;
 - wood burning stoves and fireplaces;
 - energy efficient, night-sky lighting technologies;
 - protection of wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors.
- Establish leadership in local and regional planning including, but not limited to, Mountain Accord.

Action Summary:

Guide the areas of development to minimize impacts; welcome smart growth in Summit County.

EXPECTED RESULTS BY THE END OF 2016 ARE:

- ➡ **New Emissions Reduction Goals established and achieved**
- ➡ **Verifiable cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency improvements, lighting upgrades and solar installations**
- ➡ **Quantifiable increase in overall fuel efficiency, fuel cost savings & reduction of tailpipe emissions by County fleet vehicles**
- ➡ **Increased use of renewable energy countywide**
- ➡ **Substantiated decrease in residential and commercial energy usage countywide**
- ➡ **Engaged Summit County residents participating in greenhouse gas reduction**
- ➡ **Recognizable contribution to maintenance of air and water quality**
- ➡ **Updated General Plan and Development Code that incorporate sustainability measures**