



2025 Strategic Goals Environmental Stewardship

Linda Matteson & Angelica Gurule
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Strategic Goals & Priorities

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Environmental stewardship is the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through active participation in conservation efforts and sustainable practices in coordination with community and organizational partners.

- **Strategies** include:
 - Natural Resource Protection
 - Water Conservation
 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction
 - Carbon-Neutral Energy Supply
 - Waste Management

Natural Resource Protection

Take actions to protect the wildlife and wildlife habitat, safeguard water quality, and mitigate tree loss in the community.

Status Update:

- 1 Year Anniversary of Bee City USA affiliate
- CSD and Bee City Team added 7,000 sq ft of Pollinator Gardens at the Golf Course
- To protect humans and wildlife, Council adopted wildlife ordinance to prohibit the feeding of wild animals
- Open Space and Trails Management Plan was introduced to County Council for initial discussion; next steps include a request for adoption.



Water Conservation

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Reduce potable water use and increase non-potable water use and water harvesting for irrigation where suitable.

Status Update:

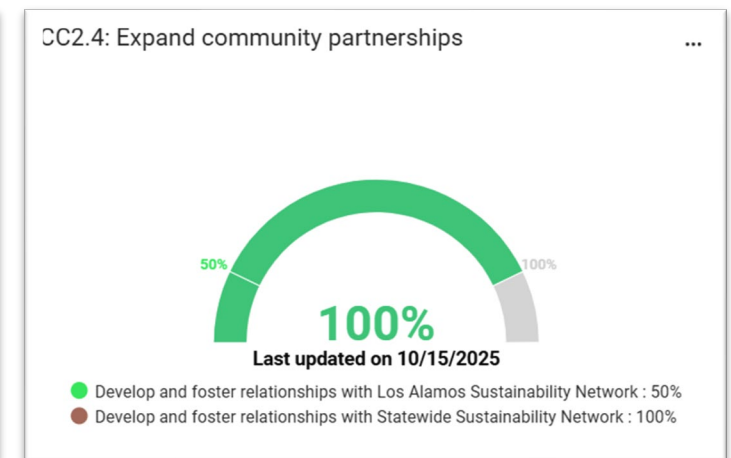
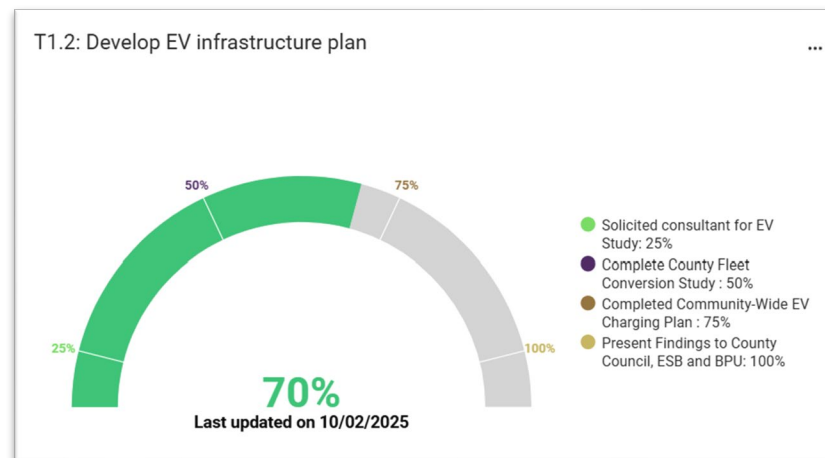
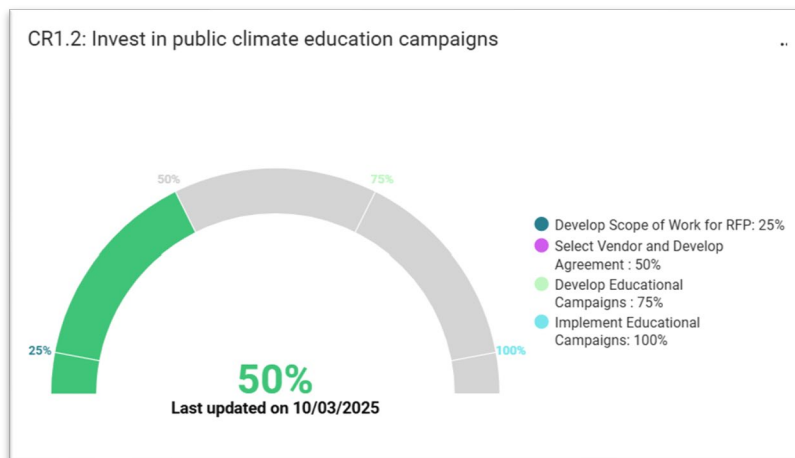
- Hosted three water production tours for the public to explain the complexity of our water system, with 35 people in attendance
- Held last WRRF tour for season to explain wastewater treatment to the public at new White Rock facility
- Summer of Sewer Campaign to combat clogged pipes and broken lift stations, including clogging demonstrations, games, and pan scraper swag, with visible clog reduction in certain neighborhoods
- Debut of Garden on a Postcards at a Farmer's Market in July outreaching to 60 people. Garden on a Postcards offer quick landscaping options for sun-tolerant, xeric-tolerant, or shade-tolerant, mostly native plants. Cards can be picked up at the Municipal Building.
- Exceeded 25,000 views through water conservation Facebook posts from July to September
- Reclaimed water used for FY25 is ~120 million gallons versus ~100 million gallons for FY24

Greenhouse Gas Reduction

Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, with interim targets of 30 percent reduction by 2030 and 80 percent reduction by 2040.

Status Update:

- Developed an internal Climate Action Working Group and defined metrics for 13 ongoing and near-term actions for years 1 & 2. (Full list is attached).



Greenhouse Gas Reduction

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Status Update:

- Expanding EV charging network by installing 14 new level 2 chargers at Municipal Building
- Obtained NMDOT Grant Funding for 2 DCFC to be constructed at Mesa Public Library
- Collaborated on Fire Station 4 design and recommended all electric building design in alignment with CAP goals
- Improving energy efficiency at Municipal Building
 - Conducted Energy Audit and optimized building efficiency
 - Currently conducting a pilot project using virtual building automation and optimization program
- Currently conducting an energy audit at Pajarito Cliff Site
- Atomic City Transit –Two Electric Busses – ETA is November 2026, currently working on design and IFB process for chargers. This project is grant funded in part by the Federal Transit Administration.
- Developed No Idling Policy
- Alternative Work Schedule Pilot Project resulted in less miles traveled for commuters up to 20% reduction in weekly miles travelled by County employees
- Partnering on the development of the Sustainability Certification Program for local businesses
- Coordinating the creation of recycled ornaments for the Holiday Tree



Greenhouse Gas Emissions

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Robotic mowers are being used at the Golf Course Driving Range and two North Mesa Athletic Fields

- 255 hours of mowing time/325 miles of mowing /77 acres
- Saved 100 gallons of diesel from being combusted
- 99 Redirected Staff Work Hours
- Reduced use of fossil fuels - staff continues to test park maintenance equipment that is battery powered and is in the process of updating the golf cart fleet to battery powered.
- Successful transition from gas to all electric Golf Cart Fleet



Carbon-Neutral Energy Supply

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Achieve carbon neutrality in electrical supply by 2040 through diversified carbon-free electric sourcing and phase out natural gas use County facilities by 2050 and in residences and businesses by 2070.

Status Update:

- **Renewable Energy Projects: 26 MW** coming from the County's two hydroelectric facilities and **on track to construct 170 MW of solar power and 80 MW of battery storage at Foxtail Flats** to grow the County's renewable energy portfolio.
 - Phase I – which includes 50% of the system will come online January 1, 2027
 - Phase 2 – 100% of the system will come online March 15, 2027
 - Foxtail Flats will supply most of the County's daytime needs with renewable energy

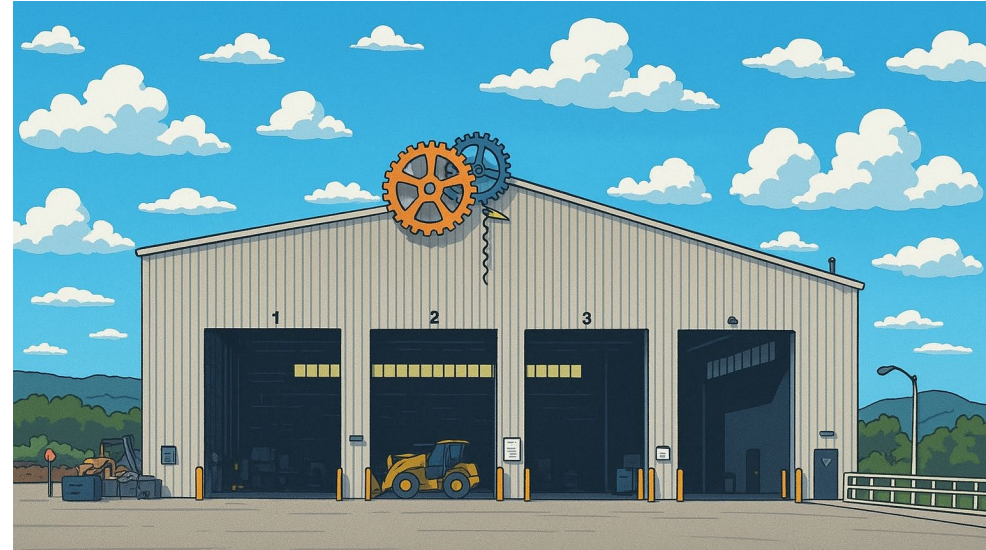


Waste Management

Promote a circular economy by diverting community waste from landfills through recycling, re-use, composting and waste reduction programs, and zero-waste campaigns.

Status Update:

- Adopted a Zero Waste Strategy as part of the Climate Action Plan
 - Conducted research on how to reduce single-use plastic water bottles with field crews
 - State-wide initiative to pass an Extended Producer Responsibility Resolution for hard to recycle materials: Lithium-Ion Batteries, Mattresses
 - Recycle processor will conduct audit on recycling material on Oct 17th
- Currently in Transfer Station Permitting Process, this is required every 20 years
- Regional solid waste landfill study in progress, draft report will be delivered Nov 2025. Staff and regional partners toured a potential landfill site.
- Receiving updates on Mozart DevCo's Waste to Hydrogen Fuel Facility, they are 36 months out to developing facility.
- Investigating In-Vessel Food Composting Options



Special Thanks

- **Climate Action Plan Working Group**

- Linda Matteson – Deputy County Manager
- Juan Rael – Deputy County Manager
- Philo Shelton – Utilities Manager, DPU
- Abbey Hayward – Water & Energy Conservation Coordinator, DPU
- Elias Isaacson – Community Development Director
- Danyelle Valdez – Planning Manager, CDD
- Eric Martinez – Public Works Director
- Eric Ulibarri – County Engineer
- Armando Gabaldon – Environmental Services Manager
- Joshua Levings – Management Analyst

- **Climate Marketing and Engagement Services**

- Leslie Bucklin – Assistant Public Information Office
- Abbey Hayward – Water and Energy Conservation Coordinator, DPU
- Sue Barns – Environmental Sustainability Board Member
- Sara Canfield – Visual Information Specialist, PIO
- Jaime Kephart – Procurement Specialist

- Pete Mondragon – Fleet Manager
- Mariano Valdez – Engineering Associate, DPU
- Sue Barns – Environmental Sustainability Board Member
- Manuel Martinez – Project Manager
- Miguel Jimenez – Sr. Project Manager
- Pete Mondragon – Fleet Manager
- Derrill Rodgers – Deputy Chief Purchasing Officer
- Stephen Marez – Former Deputy Utility Manager
- Dennis Astley – Electrical Engineering Manager, DPU
- Mariano Valdez – Engineering Associate, DPU
- Ben Olbrich- Deputy Utility Manager, DPU

Thank you! Questions?

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