

Strategic Goals & Priorities

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.

- 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



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

- 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

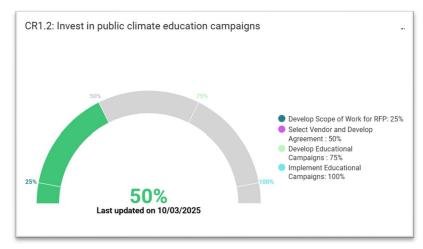


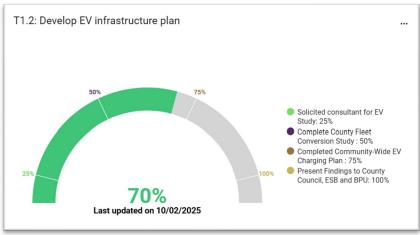
Greenhouse Gas Reduction

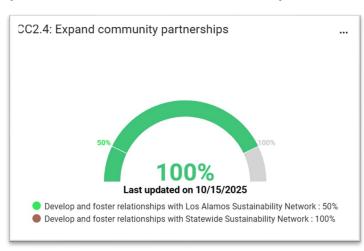
Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, with interim targets of 30 percent reduction by 2030 and 80 percent reduction by 2040.

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

- 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

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

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.

- 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.

- 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

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- Abbey Hayward Water & Energy Conservation Coordinator, DPU
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