

## Sustainability Section

Month in Review: August 2021.

### HOT TOPICS:



- Albert went to Hullabaloo! He had a great time dancing to music, promoting Sustainability and mask wearing etiquette in Flagstaff.
- Sustainability team members attended the NAU Community Fair on August 25<sup>th</sup>. They promoted several of Sustainability's programs, recruited volunteers for the Community Stewards program, and played the recycling game, testing students on their recycling knowledge.

### CLIMATE ACTION:

- Staff are working on a Major Plan Amendment to the Flagstaff 2030 Regional Plan on climate change and climate action.
  - This Amendment will revise goals and policies in the Climate Change and Adaptation of the current Regional Plan.
  - The 60-day public review period closes on September 13, 2021. Staff has hosted an in-person open house, an online information session, and an online survey to talk about this amendment with the public and obtain feedback.
  - The final public event will be on Thursday, September 9th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, online via zoom.
  - The amendment will then move into Commission review, through three separate meetings with the Planning and Zoning Commission, and then will be presented to Council in December 2021.

- Staff worked with Arizona Forward and a group of Arizona Cities and Chambers of Commerce to identify infrastructure priorities for Arizona’s future and secure investment in transportation, manufacturing, clean energy, innovation, and jobs. A letter was submitted to Arizona State Representatives on July 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Staff are working with Elevate to develop the financial investment portfolio for the Carbon Neutrality Plan.
- Six new Flagstaff Climate Ambassadors were trained on global climate change, climate impacts in Flagstaff, climate action, and climate communication in a 3-hour training on August 10 and 11.
- Sustainability's summer Accessibility Intern completed her internship in early August. This intern analyzed all Sustainability programs and provided staff with recommendations for increasing accessibility for disabled community members.
- Staff coordinated with members of ASU’s Center for Negative Emissions to submit a proposal in response to a Climateworks solicitation on environmental justice.
- Staff began working with the Community University Public Inquiry (CUPI) program at NAU to develop active participatory research projects that will help advance the Carbon Neutrality Plan.
- The Climate team is working with a Climate Science and Solutions graduate class to create a resource document on resilience in Flagstaff during the fall semester.
  - The students will draw from several resource documents that the City has to develop one updated resource on vulnerability, adaptation, and resilience.
  - The class will speak with the community about vulnerability and resilience and will present to both the Sustainability Commission and Council in September and November.
- The CY2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory has been complete, as has the submission of our annual disclosure to CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project). Some quick notes on the inventory compared to 2019:
  - Total community emissions were up 4%
  - Residential and Commercial energy emissions were down 3% and 4% respectively
  - Transportation emissions were up 10%
  - Waste emissions were up 11%
  - The final report is 95% complete and will be posted on the website in the next few weeks.

#### COMMUNITY STEWARDS/LITTER PREVENTION:

- Maggie Twomey, Volunteer and Event Coordinator, has accepted another opportunity. Maggie brought a wonderful energy, kindness, and excellence to the events and volunteers she oversaw, and well as to the rest of her work with the Sustainability team. The Sustainability Section wishes her the best in her new position. The recruitment process for the Volunteer and Event Coordinator position is currently underway.

- July Litter Cleanup Data:

Date	# of Volunteers	Total Hours	Bags of Trash	Bags of Recycling
8/8/2021	3	5	2	0
8/12/2021	1	5	3	1
8/15/2021	2	3	1	1

8/22/2021	3	6	6	3
8/24/2021	95	95	7	4
8/25/2021	10	20	12	0
8/26/2021	6	6	2	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>10</b>

## ENERGY:

- The four new level-2 EV Charging Stalls at the Aquaplex are 95% complete and are expected to go online in the next 2-weeks.
- Due to complications that would result from the Rio de Flag project coming through the library parking lot in the next 2-7 years, we are in discussion with APS to update the location of the Main Library Application. Conversations are taking place with staff at ParkFlag, Economic Vitality and the CVB, and potential locations are being proposed.
- Our Electrification intern completed his internship and presented on his development of a draft webpage and community resource titled "Residential Electrification Information Hub." Staff will work to tie up loose ends and we look forward to launching the webpage this fall.

## FOOD SYSTEMS:

- Our free "Residential Food Scraps Drop-off" (RSFD) pilot program is underway! As of August 27<sup>th</sup>, we have:
  - Collected 273 pounds of compost between both locations.
- Staff submitted a USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovative Projects grant to fund the completion of a comprehensive food systems assessment for Flagstaff. We will hear about selection on August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The Garden Workshop Series continues!
  - The High-Altitude Gardening: Fall Planting and Seed Saving event on August 7<sup>th</sup> had 10 attendees, and we were able to give out free compost pails.



- The Discussion on Food Systems Development in Arizona event on August 21<sup>st</sup> had 9 attendees.



#### MATERIALS MANAGEMENT:

- Kaeli Wells has accepted the Community Sustainability Specialist position! She has worked with the Sustainability Section closely since 2018, and most recently as the Materials Management Coordinator. We are excited for her to take on her new role and responsibilities.
- We will be starting another round of the Sustainability Leaders Training Course. Registration for this 8-week course closes September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Pay As You Throw Pilot in Ponderosa Trails is underway. Residents opting into this pilot have received their bins and bin checks will begin on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Learn more about the pilot [here](#).

#### SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION:

- At their July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Commissioners heard presentations from Fiscal Year 20's Neighborhood Sustainability Grant recipients, heard presentations on the Active Transportation Master Plan and Regional Plan Amendment, discussed the winners of the BPAC Grant collaboration, and received an update on the Neighborhood Sustainability Grant timeline including a plan for the upcoming Grant Workshop.
- There are currently 3 openings for the Sustainability Commission. Please spread the word. Those interested can apply [here](#).
- Next Commission meeting is Thursday September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, 4:30pm-6:30pm

#### UPCOMING SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY EVENTS:

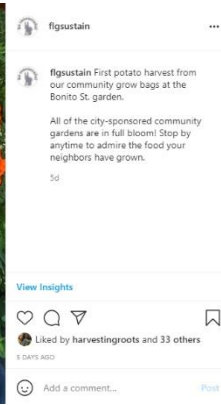
- Final Information Session on the proposed Regional Plan amendments
  - September 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm over Zoom. More information and registration can be found [here](#).
- The Neighborhood Sustainability Grant Workshop will be held over Zoom on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00pm.
  - Presenters will go over the requirements for the Neighborhood Sustainability Grant, the Water Conservation Research Grant, and the Beautification in Action Grant.

Afterwards, attendees will have the opportunity to brainstorm and ask questions about the grants. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

- Garden Workshop Series
  - Worm Bin Composting for Kids, Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:00am at the O’Leary St. Garden.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

- Our top post on Instagram was a post celebrating a harvest from the Bonito St. Garden.



- Our top post on about our free

Facebook was a post Residential Food Scraps

**GOT COMPOST?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fruits</li> <li>Vegetables</li> <li>Egg shells</li> <li>Coffee grounds</li> <li>Tea bags</li> <li>Nut shells</li> <li>Grains</li> <li>Cut flowers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meat/fish</li> <li>Bones</li> <li>Grease</li> <li>Oils</li> <li>Dairy products</li> <li>Plastics</li> <li>Recyclables</li> <li>Trash</li> </ul>
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**Drop-off program.**

**Facebook Post:** Regatta Sustainability Program. Get compost! Visit the 2022 Residential Food Scraps Drop-off with any of the above approved items. We are working with multiple composting partners to provide this service to the community to minimize food waste while supporting local sustainable farms. Come visit us!

**Schedules:**  
 Market of Dreams: 1000 am - 2:00 pm  
 Sundays: Regatta Community Market: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

- In our new Wednesday social media series "Is this Recyclable?", we will be answering the tough questions about recycling plastic, paper, and miscellaneous items.

