

SUSTAINABILITY: 2024 Status and 2025 Goals

UTA Board Meeting | December 18, 2024



Sustainability Roadmap

2023

Sustainability Specialist is hired to help agency become better environmental stewards.
Sustainability policy is passed.

2022

UTA releases their 2022 - 2030 strategic plan with the key sustainability goal of lowering their carbon footprint by 25% by 2030

2024

Jacobs Engineering onboards and starts an in-depth sustainability assessment. UTA's total carbon footprint is calculated according to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol

2025

Jacobs audit is completed. UTA drafts a final sustainability plan and begins creating a more robust sustainability system.



Audit Findings

- **Carbon Footprint**
103,886 Metric tons of Co2
(scope 1 & 2 emissions)
- **Water Footprint**
77,981,081 Gallons
 - 37,262,409 (Park n' Rides and Stations)
 - 40,718,672 (facility water use)
- **Waste Streams**
Insufficient data available
Research is ongoing



Moving Forward



2025 Goals

- ① Reduce carbon footprint by 5%
- ② Reduce Agency's water use by 15%
- ③ Create waste and recycling data streams
- ④ Complete UTA's final Sustainability Plan





Reduce Carbon Footprint by 5%

- Implement a centralized lighting control system to reduce energy use
- Continue the implementation of the Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan
- Replace LEDs in UTA facilities to reduce energy use
- Explore grant opportunities for solar panels and battery storage with Rocky Mountain Power





Reduce Agency's water use by 15%

- Identify areas of outdoor water use that exceed water use needs
- Partner with cities to convert park n' rides to xeriscape or other drought resistant plants
- Install smart water meters in areas of high water use to monitor for potential irrigation changes
- Work with local and state government to obtain rebates for removing grass



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Revamp Waste and Recycling Systems

- Create a database to record waste creation and diversion from business units and garages
- Implement a cohesive recycling system agency wide to encourage employee recycling based on results of the initial FLHQ recycling program occurring in the first 6 months of 2025.
- Devise a system of office goods that is widely available to UTA staff so that items are reused rather than repurchased.



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Complete UTA's final sustainability Plan

- Create a unified database to house all agency carbon footprint data
- Create a cohesive plan to attain UTA's Board of Trustee's sustainability goals and become a leader in sustainable transit
- Apply for APTA's Gold Sustainability standard certification



Questions?

