

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEMORANDUM
#22-2023

DATE: April 10, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

THROUGH: Heather Geyer, City Manager *hmg*
Jason Loveland, Interim Deputy City Manager *12*

FROM: Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning & Development *[Signature]*
Becky Smith, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: CR-54 – 2022-2023 Sustainability Plan Adoption

PURPOSE

To consider CR-54, a resolution approving the 2022-2023 Sustainability Plan.

BACKGROUND

The original sustainability plan was adopted by resolution on Sept. 24, 2018. It outlines the vision and high-level goals for the City and community to be more sustainable today and into the future.

At the March 6, 2023 study session, Sustainability Committee Chair Renata Trisilawati and staff presented the 2022-2023 Sustainability Plan and notable modifications to the 2018 goals, indicators, and targets in the nine existing goal areas and some of the achievements toward those goals.

The Sustainability Plan is a "living document," meaning it would continuously need to be reviewed and revised based on shifting demands, opportunities, and priorities. Several goals, indicators, and targets were revised because what was initially established has proven to be elusive or unable to track. Staff was consulted, and goals, indicators, and targets were modified or eliminated so they could be measured. In some cases, the indicators from the original plan have not been studied and therefore the target date was pushed out or left as written but may still need future modifications. Despite revisions, the indicators, targets, and overarching themes in the plan have not changed.

In the original plan, the City identified nine goal areas that include:

1. Arts, Culture, and Events
2. Sustainable Economy
3. Human Dignity
4. Transportation
5. Open Space and Land Use
6. Housing
7. Resource Conservation
8. Community Education and Civic Engagement
9. Environment and Public Health

The updated plan has identified Climate Action as a 10th goal area. The targets are modeled on the State of Colorado's climate targets but revised to reflect Northglenn's 2019 baseline for greenhouse gas emissions versus the State's 2005 baseline.

BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS

There are no current financial or time implications.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of CR-54.

STAFF REFERENCE

If Council members have any questions, please contact Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning & Development, at bsvoboda@northglenn.org or 303.450.8937.

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR LEIGHTY

COUNCIL MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-54
Series of 2023

Series of 2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN 2022-2023 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn City Council adopted the City's first Sustainability Plan on September 24, 2018, which focused on increasing sustainability in nine goal areas: arts, culture, and events; sustainable economy; human dignity; transportation; open space and land use; housing; resource conservation; community education and civic engagement; and environment and public health;

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn Sustainability Committee was created in 2021 to implement the Sustainability Plan by providing recommendations on priorities, programs, and sustainability initiatives within the City;

WHEREAS, the Committee has reviewed the Plan's goals, indicators, and related targets and has identified necessary updates, which include the addition of a tenth goal area related to climate action; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the updated 2022-2023 Sustainability Plan and desires to adopt the updated Plan to increase sustainability and enhance the City's resources and economic sustainability in order to create an exceptional quality of life for every generation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The City of Northglenn 2022-2023 Sustainability Plan, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, is hereby approved as a guiding document.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this ____ day of _____, 2023.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney

2022-2023



CITY OF
Northglenn

Sustainability Plan Update



Letter from Sustainability Committee Chair



This letter was written when most countries in the world came together to take collective action to address global climate change at the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Conference (COP 27). The conference held a very important role in the efforts to achieve climate goals as agreed under the Paris Agreement and the Convention. One of the key goals is to limit the average global temperature increase to below 2° Celsius, preferably to 1.5° Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

What is happening somewhere far from us is highly relevant to our life in Northglenn. Climate change is a global challenge, along with other socio-economic challenges. For Northglenn residents, addressing climate change has two meanings. First, as global citizens, Northglenn plays a role in contributing towards achieving Net Zero greenhouse gases that cause the changing climate. Second, Northglenn needs to build resiliency and capacity to anticipate the impacts of climate change, such as extended drought and extreme weather. Our ultimate goal is to achieve sustainability, where we can meet our present and future generation's needs without compromising the ecosystem on which we depend to create an exceptional quality of life for every generation.

In 2018, Northglenn published the Sustainability Plan, which comprises nine goals. In 2021, the Sustainability Committee was established to assist the City in identifying priority areas of the Sustainability Plan. After a series of meetings and discussions, the committee agreed that the Plan needs to be updated with climate action goals to shape our sustainability direction with readiness to answer the global challenges. Therefore, the Northglenn Sustainability Plan now has a goal that addresses climate change for the first time.

On behalf of the Committee, I hope this update will catalyze more action from the community and the City together to achieve our dream of a vibrant community that grows and thrive together in harmony, continuously.

Northglenn, November 9, 2022

Renata Trisilawati
Sustainability Committee Chair

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Sustainability Vision

Northglenn is a vibrant community that thrives on civic engagement and collaboration to use the power of our citizens to increase sustainability and enhance our resources and economic sustainability.

We creatively and thoughtfully utilize our resources—showing pride in our community—to meet our present and future generation’s needs without compromising the ecosystems on which we depend, in order to create an exceptional quality of life for every generation.

Purpose

We live in a time in which increased population growth, high levels of consumption, and the desire to feed growing economies have increased demands on our resources—natural, human, and social—on a local, regional, and global scale.

These demands negatively impact the natural environment, our communities, and the quality of our lives. In the face of these challenges, people worldwide have developed a growing concern for the environment and a desire to live sustainably.

The Colorado Front Range is already experiencing heat waves, severe wind, droughts, rainstorms, floods, and wildfires, which are expected to increase in the future. These impacts have a negative impact on our economy, stress our natural resources, and worsen inequities facing many individuals in our communities.

Action is required at all levels, and local governments have a unique role to play in building sustainable communities. With this plan, Northglenn joins a number of surrounding communities – Lakewood, Longmont, Westminster, Denver, Arvada, Thornton, and others – in taking action to increase sustainability.

Project Background

In the fall of 2018, City Council adopted the City's first Sustainability Plan. At the time of adoption, the following steps were identified:

- **Identify and inventory initiatives the City already has in place;**
- **Establish the vision and high-level goals; and**
- **Propose potential new initiatives that could be explored by the City in the future.**

During the original planning process, the City selected nine Goal Areas that best aligned with the Sustainability Vision. Indicators were identified in the plan to measure progress toward meeting goals. When measured over time, indicators help us tell us to determine if we are making progress and aid in decision-making.

The Sustainability Plan acted as the catalyst for the City to study, inventory, and understand the City's baseline concerning several aspects of sustainability. These studies and plans are intended to provide information specific to Northglenn that will help guide policies and actions with the most significant impact. The following is a list of the studies conducted to support the Sustainability Plan:

- **Risk and Adaption Advisory Report** – this report was completed in tandem with the Sustainability Plan. It provides a high-level view of the climate-related risks and hazards that are most likely for Northglenn.
- **City of Northglenn Inventory of Community and Municipal Operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions** – this inventory provides the City with a baseline for emissions levels and sources and activities generating emissions in the community.
- **City of Northglenn Energy Action Plan** – this report resulted from the City's participation in the Xcel Partners in Energy Program. The plan outlines tangible steps for the City to move the community toward its energy efficiency and resiliency goals.
- **City of Northglenn Electric Vehicle Action Plan** – This plan was also developed in collaboration with Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy. The plan is a roadmap to strategically guide Northglenn's actions in a manner that supports increased use of electric vehicles throughout the City with a focus on the municipal fleet, public adoption, public charging, and policy.

Project Background

During the past four years, the City completed Milestones 1, 2, and 3, has begun to implement the Sustainability Plan, and is tracking Milestones 4 and 5. This process of continuous improvement will be informed by engagement with our community and business members, supported by Council leadership, and led by the City's Sustainability Committee and internal Green Team.

- **Milestone 1:** Conduct a Sustainability Assessment
- **Milestone 2:** Set Sustainability Goals
- **Milestone 3:** Develop a Sustainability Plan
- **Milestone 4:** Implement the Sustainability Work Plan
- **Milestone 5:** Monitor/Evaluate Implementation Progress

Goals and related targets will be continuously evaluated and adjusted as needed. When this plan was originally developed, many targets and baselines were not yet established. Data collection in some areas has proven to be elusive, thus requiring the elimination or modification of certain targets. In other cases, the indicators have not yet been studied and may still need modifications in the future.

Continued



Sustainability Committee, Development, Leadership, and Implementation

The Sustainability Committee was formed in March of 2021, by the direction of the City Council, to implement the Sustainability Plan by providing recommendations on priorities, programs, and sustainability initiatives within the City.



The vision of the Sustainability Committee is to creatively and thoughtfully utilize our resources, show pride in our community, and meet our present and future generation's needs without compromising the ecosystems on which we depend, in order to create an exceptional quality of life for every generation.

The committee's purpose is to:

- Advance and encourage environmentally sustainable practices and ideas within the City, including, but not limited to, City operations and facilities, new development, City ordinances, governing construction and development, local businesses, neighborhoods, homeowners, and residents.
- Collaborate with City staff to continue to implement and update the strategies and goals in the Sustainability Plan.
- Provide recommendations and suggestions to the City Council regarding laws, ordinances, rules, programs, and funding that promote sustainability.
- Work in cooperation with other City boards, commissions, and committees to promote sustainability policies and programs.
- To promote sustainability awareness at city events or at the request of interested individuals or groups.
- Conduct occasional community surveys to understand the local perspective on the Sustainability Plan and progress the community feels is necessary.

The Sustainability Committee's mission is to coordinate, initiate, and promote sustainability within the City.

Sustainability Committee Development, Leadership, and Implementation

Continued

The Sustainability Committee will focus on policies, programs, and awareness as identified in the City’s adopted Sustainability Plan goal areas. The committee will be responsible for recommending revisions, additions, and amendments to the Sustainability Plan. The committee will aim to provide one prioritized topic from the plan and one urgent topic area annually. Urgent topic areas can include topics outside of the goal areas listed in this Sustainability Plan.

The implementation of this plan would not be possible without the engagement of this dedicated group of residents and stakeholders who recognize that the structure and development of City services have implications for livability today and the long-term success of the City.

This plan reflects the many sustainability components present in the City’s current service delivery as well as aspirations for the future.





Relationship to Other Plans

The Sustainability Plan brings together elements from existing plans and policy reports, including the Northglenn Comprehensive Plan, Connect Northglenn Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan, and the Food Access Assessment Report.

Initiatives from these plans were examined under the framework of the Sustainability Plan's nine goal areas, and opportunities for improvements were identified. Initiatives that align with the existing policy were given higher priority for implementation.

Goal Areas

In the original Plan, the City selected nine goal areas. The committee has added Climate Action as the 10th goal area. Indicators have been developed to measure progress toward meeting goals. When measured over time, indicators help us tell us to determine if we are making progress and aid in decision-making.



Climate Action



Arts, Culture, and Events



Sustainable Economy



Human Dignity



Transportation



Open Space and Land Use



Housing



Resource Conservation



Community Education and Civic Engagement



Environment and Public Health

Climate Action



Goals

1. Expand energy efficiency by implementing the Energy Action Plan, Energy Performance Contracting, Benchmarking City and Commercial Buildings, and connecting Northglenn businesses to the Colorado Green Business program
2. Adopt the latest Energy Building Codes with strengthening amendments
3. Create and adopt a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan
4. Expand sustainable transportation options in the community by expanding bicycle and pedestrian networks, bicycle and eBike programs, electric vehicle adoption and infrastructure, transit, and adapting to new clean transit options as they emerge.
5. Invest in and incentivize renewable energy, including wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, and hydroelectric. Promote programs that help residents invest in renewables, including solar co-ops and subscription programs.
6. Continue to participate in organizations that advocate for climate action at a State and Federal advocacy level, such as Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA).
7. Reduce vehicle idling times through public awareness campaigns and traffic light synchronization.

Indicators

- Electric Vehicle Adoption
- Energy Use
- Renewable Energy Utilization
- Air Quality
- Updated Community and Municipal Greenhouse Emission Inventory in 2028
- Climate Action and Resiliency Plan

Targets

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the levels of the 2019 City of Northglenn Inventory of Community Municipal Operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions:
 - 2030: 20%
 - 2040: 50%
 - 2050: 90%
- Build resiliency from top climate risks by 2025, particularly for vulnerable populations.
- Revisit GHG targets in 2030 based on GHG emission inventory update.



Arts, Culture, and Events



Goals

1. Develop and nurture quality programs for the City of Northglenn’s arts, culture, and events programs.
2. Increase connectivity, allowing all people access to community classes, events, and programs.
3. Create a thriving set of sustainable, creative, and diverse event programs.
4. Encourage event participants to use alternative modes of transit to City events, such as walking, biking, electric vehicles, public transit, etc.

Indicators

- Participation levels
- Affordability
- Accessibility
- Programming levels
 - City-sponsored
 - Externally-sponsored

Targets

- Maintain programming levels for both City-sponsored and externally-sponsored theatre events.
- Increase participation and attendance in theatre events by 10% by 2030.
- Present City events that meet City Council's strategic goals by engaging the Northglenn community and drawing on our target audience by 2030.
- Maintain affordability and accessibility while growing recreation and theatre programs by 10% by 2030.
- Provide recycling containers, services, or other options at all City-sponsored festivals when feasible. Event waste practices should strive to meet city sustainability practices and waste reduction goals.

Achievements

- Programming has been expanded in the new Parsons Theatre, and attendance is back to pre-pandemic numbers.
- The theatre is on track to achieve a 10% participation increase before 2030.
- Programming of City events has gone up, and attendance has increased.

Sustainable Economy



Goals

1. Create a sustainable and diverse tax base that allows the City to maintain a high level of service for Northglenn residents and businesses.
2. Encourage private capital investment that contributes to job creation in Northglenn.
3. Create social opportunities that contribute to a sense of place and attract both new residents to the community as well as retain existing residents and businesses.
4. Encourage collaboration, innovation, and applying that information to solve public problems.

Indicators

- Business participation in sustainability programs
- Diversity in businesses and business owners

Targets

- Increase number of businesses participating in sustainability programs.
- Increase economic opportunities for entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Achievements

- 80 new businesses opened, creating 205 new jobs in 2021.
- 95 businesses participated in Xcel Energy programs in 2021.
- 75 businesses were visited in 2022 with representatives from Clear Results, which resulted in seven energy assessments.
- 359 COVID-19 business grants awarded in 2020 for \$1,228,777 to assist businesses during the pandemic.
- \$23.6 million invested by Prost Brewery to build one of the most sustainable and technologically- advanced breweries that will add 200 jobs over the next 10 years.
- \$300 million invested by KF Developers to develop a mixed-use project at Karl's Farm, which includes many sustainability amenities, including EV charging options in the homes and community stations for the community.

2021 Economic Indicators

101,458
Square Feet of
Retail, Office
and Industrial
Space Absorbed

80
Business
Retention
Activities

5.4%
Unemployment
Rate

47
New Business
Prospects

78
New Businesses
*50 Storefront
28 Home-Based*

205
New Storefront
Jobs

Human Dignity



Goals

1. Community members can meet their basic needs and are empowered to enhance the quality of their lives.
2. The City of Northglenn forms collaborative partnerships with service providers and communicates residents' needs to them.
3. Provide community members with resources to educate and connect them to housing, health, education, economic opportunity, parks, trails, open space, cultural and recreational services, programs, and events.
4. Demonstrate respect for and appreciation of the value added to the community by differences among its members.
5. Create and adopt equity and inclusivity plan in collaboration with the Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity Board.
6. Families/communities that are healthy, dignified, inclusive, prosperous, safe, and have a positive impact on the environment.

Indicators

- Percentage of needy households connected to services
- Recreation and culture program participation
- Recreation facility utilization
- Number of volunteers
- Equity and inclusivity plan
- Percentage of the population who believe that equity and inclusivity should be prioritized in Northglenn
- Racial Equity Tool

Targets

- Connect 100% of households needing energy and water bill assistance with resources that can help.
- Increase participation in evidence-based and general programs by 10% by 2025.
- Increase recreation center and senior center facility utilization by 15% by 2030.
- Increase citywide volunteer base by 5% by 2030.
- Create a team to complete the updated Equity Foundations training offered by the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) by the end of 2023.

Achievements

- A new, full-service recreation center, senior center, and theatre opened in October 2021.
- With the opening of the new facility, there was a significant expansion in personnel, which will only aid the City's efforts to provide and deliver high-quality parks, recreation, and culture facilities, services, programs, and events.
- The 2022 drop-in utilization of the new facility is approaching nearly double what it was at the original facility in 2019.
- Aquatics, children's, fitness/wellness, sports, and youth/teen programming continues to evolve and expand.
- The new facility has received a couple of awards:
 - Colorado Parks & Recreation Association's Columbine Award for Design (December 2021).
 - American Public Works Association Colorado Chapter Awards, Structures (October 2022).
- Creation of the City's Crisis Response Unit (CRU) in 2021 that will work to ease hardships for residents of the City of Northglenn, creating a path for self-advocacy through the use of an on-scene crisis response team, case management, and conflict resolution.

Transportation



Goals

1. Create a multi-modal transportation system that minimizes and, where possible, eliminates pollution and motor vehicle congestion while ensuring safe mobility and access for all without compromising our ability to protect public health and safety.
2. Facilitate a reduction in automobile dependency in favor of affordable, alternative, sustainable modes of travel.
3. Implement policies that create vibrant business centers through multi-model transportation options.

Indicators

- Participation in mobility programs
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Safety
- Mobility Options
 - Programs
 - Infrastructure

Targets

- Increase the number of students biking or walking to school by 25% by 2025.
- Install 10 miles of on-street bicycle facilities by 2023.
- Continue the bike program to refurbish used bikes and connect them to residents.
- Increase modal shift to active transportation through implementation of Connect Northglenn, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.
- Increase participation in Derby Day bike rodeo by 10% annually.
- Install 100 bike racks around the community by 2028.
- Zero traffic incidents involving cyclists/ pedestrians by 2030.
- Increase the number of city employees teleworking at least one day per week by 10% by 2020 and 20% by 2025.
- Increase transit ridership by 30% by 2030.
- Reduce total GHG emissions of city fleet vehicles by 30% by 2025.

Achievements

- 11 Northglenn residents are in the Smart Commute Metro North eBike program that offers income-qualified individuals an electric bike and accessories. The cost to participate is \$250. The Northglenn HEAL Committee is providing scholarships to cover the \$250 for up to 10 Northglenn residents in phase II of the program. Currently, seven residents are signed up for Phase II.
- The City has installed 35 bike racks in City Parks and on City properties. The City also has three bike repair stations and will be installing four bike racks at the entrances of Croke Reservoir. The Northglenn bike racks were purchased with an Adams County Open Space Grant.
- The City has installed 6.41 miles of road with on-street bike lanes/sharrows.
- The City has adopted a Teleworking Policy to allow for remote work with Supervisor approval.

Open Space and Land Use



Goals

1. Implement land use and transportation policies encouraging open space, parks, trails, and mixed-use communities.
2. Implement land use policies that encourage medium and high-density residential and mixed-use development where appropriate.
3. Lead the Northglenn community by example by transitioning City parks and facilities to use water-conserving plants for landscaping.
4. Foster community pride through environmental stewardship.
5. Create a regional and well-utilized parks and trails system with amenities that are attractive to people of all ages and abilities.

Indicators

- Percent of residential, mixed-use projects that are within ¼ mile of transit nodes and are otherwise consistent with Sustainable Plan goals.
- Percent of new or replaced, non-turf, public landscaped areas and non-recreational turf areas planted with regionally-appropriate plants.
- Number of acres of public open space by type (including beaches, parks, public gathering places, gardens, and other public lands utilized as open space).
- Percent of open space that is permeable.

Targets

- Create Compact & Complete Communities: Concentrate new and re-development in compact, human-scaled, walkable centers and neighborhoods that connect to transit, offer diverse uses and services, and provide housing options for families of all income levels.
- Focus new growth in infill areas and on redevelopment that does not require the extension of water, sewer, and road infrastructure or facilitate sprawl. Identify these centers in the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Increase the use of natural systems for stormwater management.

Achievements

- Adoption of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) in 2019, which includes new mixed-use zone districts.
- Development of the Civic Center began and is currently in Phase II.

Housing



Goals

1. Implement land use policies that create a diverse mix of housing that can accommodate all levels of homebuyers and renters.
2. Retain residents by providing new mid-level housing opportunities for next-stage homebuyers and new business/social opportunities for residents in redevelopment projects.
3. Adopt policies that encourage healthy and sustainable housing.

Indicators

- The total cost of housing
- Type of housing available
- Access to housing services
- Improvements to existing houses
- % of Cost Burdened Households

Achievements

- The Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), adopted in 2019, allows single-family residential properties to have accessory dwelling units as a use-by-right.
- The UDO includes three Mixed-Use Zone Districts that can promulgate residential uses.
- Karl's Farm is adding diversity to the housing stock with housing types that were not common in Northglenn.
- The City received a Department of Local Affairs Innovative Affordable Housing Strategies grant to conduct a housing assessment and identify policy strategies to promote affordable housing in the community.

Targets

- Decrease the number of cost-burdened residents by 10% by 2028.
- Complete sub-area planning of the nine Areas of Focus recommended in the City's comprehensive plan, with close attention paid to understanding the feasibility of mixed-use development and inclusion of mid-density housing by 2032.
- Provide or leverage existing financial assistance programs (loans, grants, etc.) to assist homeowners with improving their houses and assist 100 households by 2030.
- Increase placing individuals with available services to 10% by 2025.
- Increase affordability by reducing energy costs.
- Decrease residential energy usage by 25% by 2038.

Resource Conservation



Goals

1. Significantly decrease community consumption (residents and businesses), specifically non-local, non-renewable, non-recyclable, and non-recycled materials, water, energy, and fuels.
2. Demonstrate leadership by encouraging sustainable procurement, extended producer responsibility, and modeling innovative strategies to become a zero-waste city.
3. Within renewable limits, encourage using local, non-polluting, renewable, and recycled resources (water, energy, and material).
4. Reduce water consumption through policies that require low-impact development.
5. Increase the energy efficiency of City businesses by encouraging the use of alternative energy sources and partnerships with the City's energy provider.

Targets

- Reduce potable water use by 17-20% by 2021 and by 25% by 2030.
- Decrease total & per capita water usage by 5% each year from the previous 5 years average
- Reduce community-wide commercial energy usage by 15% by 2025.
- Reduce community-wide residential energy usage by 15% by 2025.
- Reduce municipal energy usage by 25% by 2030.
- Increase the percentage of City spending identified as sustainable by 30% by 2035.
- Increase the residential landfill diversion rate to 20% by 2035.
- Decrease paper use in City operations by 15% by 2025.

Indicators

- Water use
- Energy use
- Petroleum use
- Paper use
- Sustainably-sourced goods

Achievements

- Potable water usage has decreased by about 7% since 2018.
- Not including 2022 data, there is a total and per capita decrease of 1% from the previous 5-year average.
- 231 commercial energy efficiency projects have been completed since 2017 - resulting in savings of over 5 million kWh of electricity and nearly 7,000 therms of natural gas
- 2,603 residential energy efficiency projects have been completed since 2017 resulting in savings of over 1.3 million kWh of electricity and 113,000 therms of natural gas
- The City of Northglenn pursued energy efficiency improvements that resulted in savings of over 527,000 kWh of electricity since 2017.
- 289 new participants in roof-top solar over the 2017 baseline
- Through the energy savings and renewable energy actions Northglenn residents, businesses, and government have taken, over 7,349 MT CO₂e of greenhouse gas emissions were avoided since 2017 – equivalent to the emissions associated with 1,583 gas-powered vehicles driven for one year.
- Residential waste diversion is between 12 and 13%.



Community Education and Civic Engagement



Goals

1. Community members of all demographics participate actively and effectively in civic affairs and community improvement efforts.
2. Through effective education and messaging, community members of all ages understand the basic principles of sustainability and use them to guide their decisions and actions.

Indicators

- Level of civic engagement
- Voter registrations
- Participation in neighborhood activities
- Resident satisfaction

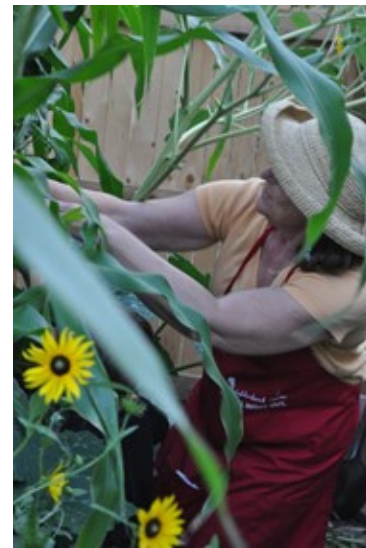
Targets

- Increase voter registration by 10% by 2024.
- Increase voting rates by 15% by 2024.
- Launch an education campaign with at least 10 volunteers' participation.
- Hold at least three outreach events.
- Hold at least three business education events.

Achievements

- The Communications Department has utilized every format available (social media, Connection, utility billing inserts, etc.) to provide information to the community on the following sustainability initiatives:
 - Farmers Highline Canal Cleanup
 - 9/11 Day of Service
 - Bike to Work Day
 - Bike safety education to youth through Bike Rodeos (Derby Days and partnership with elementary schools)
 - Solar co-op opportunities
 - Partners in Energy (PiE) – Energy Action Plan initiatives
 - Metro North Smart Commute survey distribution and eBike program
 - Love My Air – air quality informational videos
 -
- Planning Division Staff attended several City Events, including most Groove, Grub, and Local Gov. with information on the sustainability initiatives listed above.
- In March 2021, the City of Northglenn formed a Resident and Stakeholder Sustainability Committee that meets monthly to discuss how to promote and communicate the goals in this plan.

Environment and Public Health



Goals

1. Promote healthier environments and protect public health by supporting actions that:
 - a. Reduce the use of hazardous chemicals by residents, businesses, and City operations.
 - b. Support the use of 'Green' or natural cleaners, pesticides, and fertilizers to reduce impacts to air, water and soil.
2. Strive to meet the needs of those experiencing hardship and/or unhoused and prevent future homelessness.
3. Ensure that no one geographic or socioeconomic group in the city is unfairly impacted by environmental pollution.
4. Promote the increase of fresh, locally-grown organic produce to encourage the availability of healthy foods and reduce the negative impacts of long-distance shipping.

Indicators

- Illegal/Illicit spills and dumping actions
- Access to fresh produce
- Participation in community gardens
- Air quality
- Number of people in need connected to services

Targets

- Increase public outreach on topics (subjects) related to environmental protection and health and appropriate methods for disposal of household chemicals by 10% by 2030.
- Decrease average residential distance from fresh produce access by 15% by 2030.
- Increase the number of community gardens in the Community - both privately and publicly owned.
- Provide crisis intervention in the interest of public safety.

Achievements

- The City installed two air quality monitoring stations with a grant through the Love My Air program administered by Tri-County Health Department. The monitors track real-time data on particulate matter, harmful pollutants from vehicles, industrial sources, wildfires, and wood burning. When inhaled, it can become lodged in the lungs and bloodstream, exacerbating respiratory health issues. Children are especially susceptible. Residents can access this information anytime to help make informed decisions on activities.
- The City formed a Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity Board in 2020 to support the City Council's strategic focus on diversity and inclusivity in Northglenn.
- Creation of the City's Crisis Response Unit (CRU) in 2021 to aid the Northglenn Police Department, Neighborhood Services Division, and Municipal Court in responding to Northglenn residents experiencing hardships by utilizing crisis intervention techniques and case management.

Glossary

Arts, Culture, and Events are nurturing and enhancing creative communities and providing opportunities for people to create a sense of community

Climate represents average weather together with its variability of representations of the weather conditions for a specified area during a specified time interval (usually decades or longer).

Climate Change refers to a change in climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and natural climate variability observed over comparable periods.

Community Education and Civic Engagement | Activating an engaged public

Greenhouse Gases | Any gas in the Earth's atmosphere that traps heat and can contribute to climate change. Greenhouse gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), halogenated fluorocarbons (HCFCs), ozone (O₃), perfluorinated carbons (PFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)

Energy independence is the concept of reducing dependence on outside sources of energy to increase resilience and secure economic conditions at the local level.

Environment and Public Health | minimizing or eliminating toxins harmful to humans and the natural environment.

Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Hazard Mitigation | Actions taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards.

Housing | Promoting affordable, livable, healthy, and energy and resource-efficient housing

Human Dignity | Meeting the needs of all community members

Open Space and Land Use | Promoting and protecting the community and our environment

Glossary **Continued**

Resilience | The ability of a system to absorb disturbances while retaining the same basic structure and ways of functioning, the capacity for self-organization, and the capacity to adapt to stress and change.

Resource Conservation | Reducing waste, protecting natural resources, and promoting renewable resources.

Sensitivity | The degree to which a built, natural, or human system is directly or indirectly affected by changes in climate conditions or specific climate change impacts. If a system is likely to be affected due to projected climate change, it should be considered sensitive to climate change.

Sustainable Economy | nurturing a diverse and equitable economy

Sustainability | Ensuring that equity, environment, and economy are considerations in decision-making. Often with a focus on the future, sustainability is often defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Systems | The built, natural, and human networks that provide important services or activities within a community or region. Built systems can refer to networks of facilities, buildings, and transportation infrastructures such as roads and bridges. Natural systems can refer to ecological networks of fish, wildlife, and natural resources like water. Human systems refer to networks of public health clinics, courts, and government.

Transportation | moving people and goods in an efficient and healthy manner.

Vulnerability | Susceptibility of a system to, and the inability of a system to cope with the adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability. Vulnerability is a function of a system's sensitivity to climate and the capacity of that system to adapt to climate changes. Systems that are sensitive to climate and less able to adapt to changes are generally considered to be vulnerable to climate change impacts.

Acknowledgments

Northglenn Sustainability Committee

- Renata Trisilawati (co-chair), Property Owner
- Jenn Parke (co-chair), Resident
- Chris Porter, Resident
- Todd Hughes, Resident
- Chase Janis, Resident
- Stratus Mushabe, Resident
- Chris Baum, Resident
- Ashley Seaward, Resident
- Björn Magnus, Resident
- Julia Newman, Property Owner
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- Nicholas Walker, Ward 1
- Becky Brown, Ward 2
- Jay Jaramillo, Ward 2
- Katherine Goff, Ward 3
- Richard Kondo, Ward 3
- Shannon Lukeman-Hiromasa, Ward 4
- Jenny Willford, Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 4

Ensuring Progress

Perhaps no group has adopted the maxim, “think globally, act locally,” more convincingly than today's local government leaders.

Visionary local leaders embrace actions on climate change, environmental justice, energy independence, natural resource conservation, unemployment, poverty, public health, and fiscal resiliency. Local leaders also recognize that these seemingly disparate issues are inexorably linked.

When local governments align their services, land use, and infrastructure with sustainable principles, they can achieve broad benefits for their communities.

The City will track its sustainability progress and update residents, businesses, and stakeholders via the City's website northglenn.org/sustainability

Sustainability is a community effort...

...get involved!

As a community member, you can help us make progress.

For updates or information about how you can get involved, visit www.northglenn.org/sustainability.



CITY OF
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