

BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING

Sustainability Action Plan: Annual ProgressINFORMATION

This item is for information only. The inaugural tri-campus Sustainability Action Plan was delivered in July 2020. This is an annual update of progress on the plan.

BACKGROUND

Since establishing the UW Climate Action Plan in 2009, the University has made good progress with regard to reducing its carbon footprint and institutionalizing sustainability principles. However, even as a three-time gold-rated university, recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), our work is not done. We have opportunities to improve our sustainability performance and deliver on actionable goals that involve all campuses.

The Sustainability Action Plan is built on five Guiding Principles addressing student learning outcomes, research impact, diversity, equity & inclusion, responsible use of our resources, and of course, decarbonization of our energy sources. The Sustainability Action Plan balances our goals with the University's overall priorities to ensure we can execute these actions in a measurable manner. As such, we track and monitor on a regular basis and update annually.

Attachment

Sustainability Action Plan Annual Progress: Mandates imperatives and UW commitments

Board of Regents
September 9, 2021

Sustainability Action Plan Annual Progress

Mandated imperatives and UW commitments



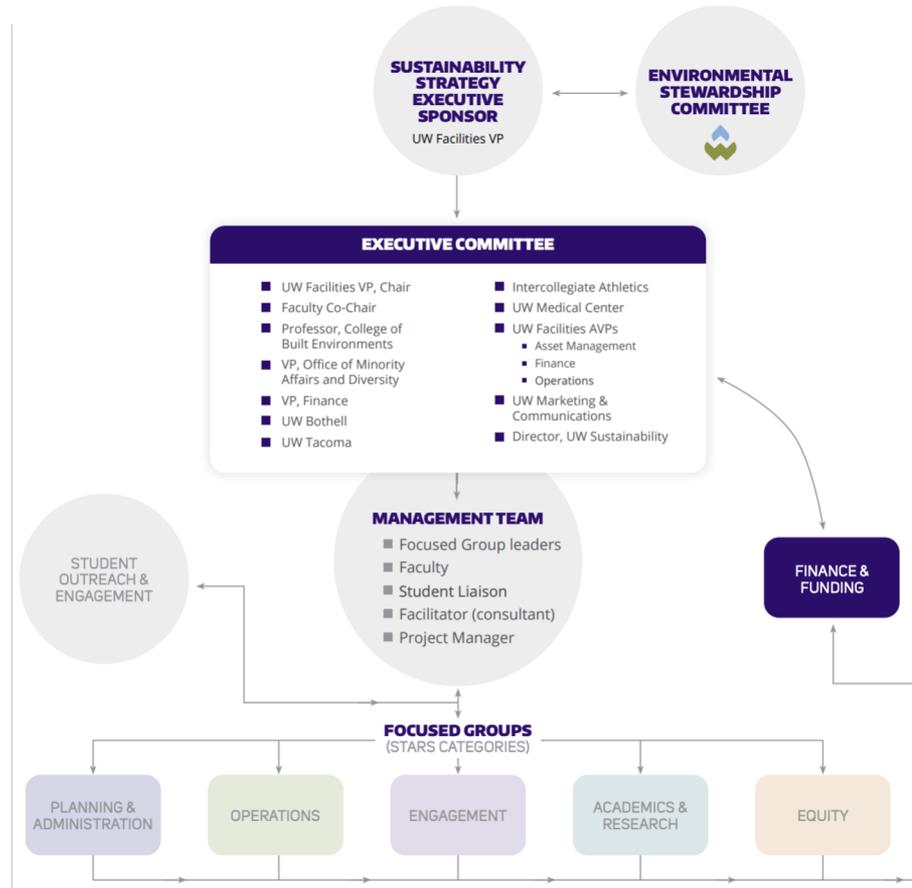
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ATTACHMENT

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Sustainability Strategy Governance Model



UW Sustainability Action Plan: Targets I - V

	TARGET	ACTIONS	GUIDING PRINCIPLES*
I.	Double Student, Staff, and Faculty Sustainability Engagement by 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole U and UW Sustainability Collaborate To Expand University-wide Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Professional Development Opportunities For Faculty and Staff • Inventory and Expand Community Engagement 
II.	One UW-Wide Sustainability Framework by 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize and publish the UW-wide definition of sustainability • Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes • Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub 
III.	Double Sustainability-Oriented Research Projects by 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Sustainability Research Catalog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Campuses as a Living Laboratory 
IV.	Comprehensive Equitable Purchasing Targets by 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus awareness related to supplier diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a Supplier Code of Conduct 
V.	5% Lower Emissions from Professional Travel by 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate department/unit specific travel reduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement programs for offsetting air travel emissions 

UW Sustainability Action Plan: Targets VI - X

	TARGET	ACTIONS	GUIDING PRINCIPLES*
VI.	35% of Food is From Local Sources by 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase sourcing of local foods by 1% each year Expand plant-based options by 10% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase student engagement education and understand of impact of plant-based options 
VII.	6% Decrease in Single Occupancy Commuting rate per Campus by 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable transportation options & telework post COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate expansion & demand of daily parking options Promote U-CAR & UW Shuttle service for mid-day travel 
VIII.	15% Lower Energy Usage Intensity by 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Cost Effective Conservation Investments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Demand Side Management (DSM) Approach 
IX.	10% Less Solid Waste by 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divert compostable waste from recycling & landfill Implement low-waste campus kitchens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste diversion through donation Reduce single-use disposable items 
X.	45% Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrify UW Transportation Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to Repower the Seattle Campus Implement Campus Solar Plan 

*** A PLAN GROUNDED BY THESE PRINCIPLES**


Ensure Students Achieve Sustainability Literacy


Choose our Research Conscientiously


Keep Equity and Inclusion at the Center

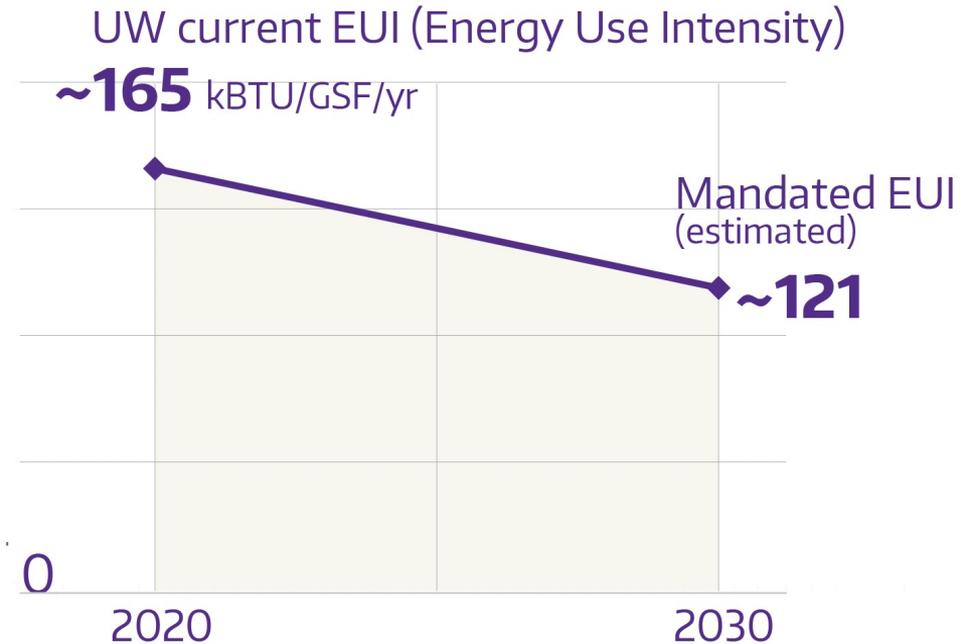

Use Resources Responsibly


Decarbonize

Challenge: Mandates

WA Clean Buildings Act – HB1257

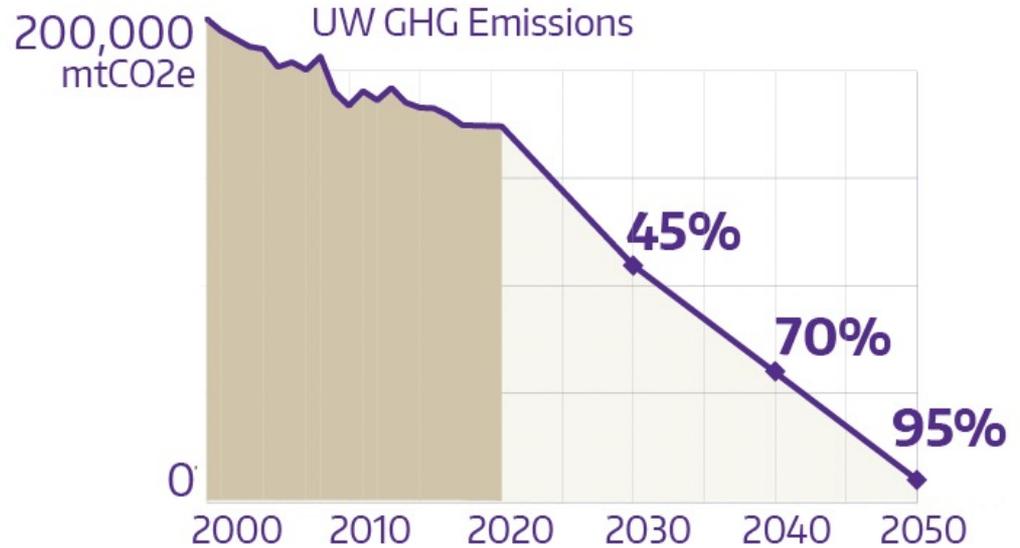
- Beginning in 2026, requirement for large buildings to demonstrate that their buildings consume less energy than a specified energy use intensity target
- Financial penalties up to \$1/SF/year for non-compliance



Challenge: Mandates

RCW 70A.45.050 Greenhouse gas emission limits for state agencies

Beginning in 2022, state agencies must report actions taken and actions planned to meet emission reduction targets



Challenge: Mandates

SB5126 Climate Commitment Act

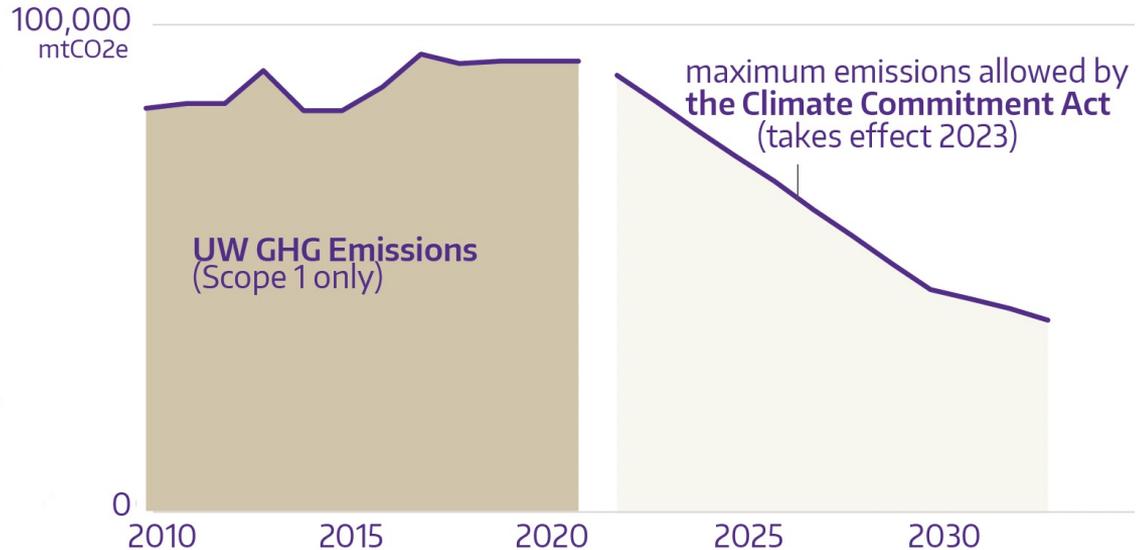
Starting in 2023, the state will determine the amount of emissions allowed each year.

UW is required to buy 1 “allowance” for every ton of CO₂ we emit.

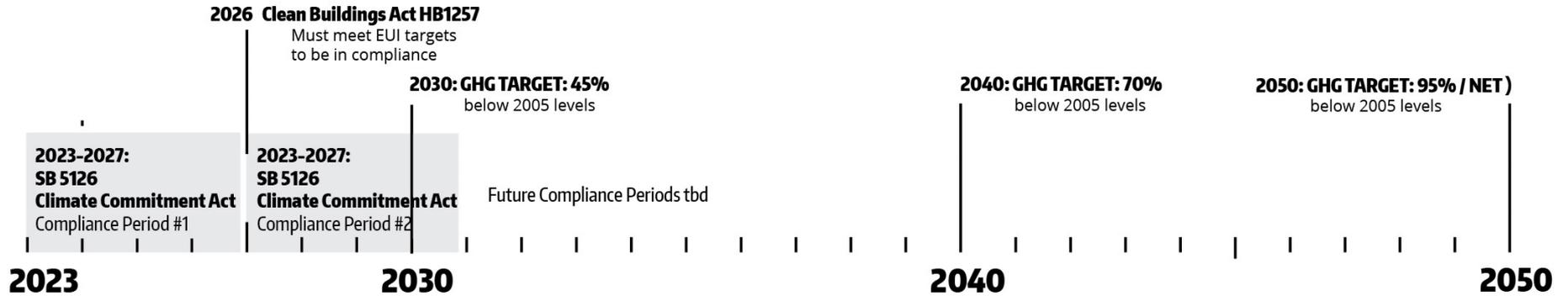
If we fail to buy enough allowances, we will be required to buy 4x the number of missing allowances within 6 months. If we don't, we can be fined up to \$10,000/day.

Proceeds from allowance auctions will be made available for carbon-reduction actions.

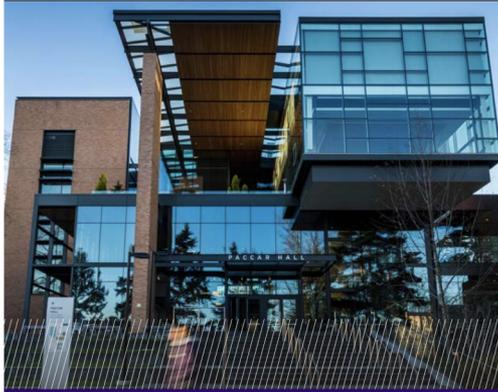
* Rule-making is incomplete, making the full ramifications of the act unknown.



Timeline



Challenge: commitments



VIII. 15% LOWER ENERGY USAGE INTENSITY BY 2025

Target Actions

- Implement Cost Effective Conservation Investments
- Expand Campus Meter Monitor O&M Program
- Purchase Only Energy Star Appliances



X. 45% REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2030

Target Actions

- Electrify UW Transportation Services
- Plan to Repower the Seattle Campus
- Implement Campus Solar Plan

Appendices

SAP FY21: Accomplishments

Target I. Double student, staff, & faculty sustainability engagement by 2024

- ✓ Hired student intern to develop outreach and engagement strategy
- ✓ Started diversity, equity and inclusion engagement strategy for the Sustainability Action Plan
- ✓ Worked with Sustainability Action Plan team to develop inclusive process for FY22 updates
- ✓ Started tracking events for all campuses as a proxy engagement metric

Target II. One UW-Wide sustainability framework by 2022

- ✓ Engaged the Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC), Campus Sustainability Fund (CSF), and faculty groups in crafting a sustainability definition for the UW
- ✓ Worked with Program on the Environment students for Sustainability Hub Feasibility study

Target III. Double sustainability-oriented research projects by 2025

- ✓ Formed faculty advisory group for curriculum and research
- ✓ Reviewed prior effort to create a catalog/directory of sustainability related researchers
- ✓ CSF established UW network to further equity-focused Campus as a Living Lab work

SAP FY21: Accomplishments

Target IV. Comprehensive equitable purchasing targets by 2022

- ✓ Hired a student intern to help address engagement initiatives
- ✓ Established a process for tracking and reporting all contract suppliers who have agreed to the UW Supplier Code of Conduct
- ✓ Established a process to capture second-tier diversity spending from major goods and services suppliers

Target V. 5% lower emissions from professional travel by 2025

- ✓ Developed travel data baseline from UW systems
- ✓ Completed a master agreement with ACT/Evergreen to be UW's contracted carbon offsets provider
- ✓ Worked with Program on the Environment student class projects for air travel reduction and carbon offsets

Target VI. 35% of food is from local sources by 2025

- ✓ Focused on partnerships with local community organizations during production and operation challenges
- ✓ Partnered with the UW Farm for their annual fundraiser and focusing on the Farm as the primary means to procure available produce

SAP FY21: Accomplishments

Target VII. 6% decrease in SOV commuting rate per campus by 2028

- ✓ Updated target language to better reflect needs of all three campuses
- ✓ Developed a transportation needs assessment survey of the campus community to determine barriers
- Partnered with Commute Options and developed three potential routes to study
- ✓ Finalized work plan for bike house program

Target VIII. 15% lower energy usage intensity by 2025

- ✓ Started process to create Green Revolving Fund
- ✓ Obtained approval for the OSI building monitoring equipment
- Worked on scope for 17 conservation projects
- ✓ Engaged with and contacted shops and vendors to develop conservation proposals

Target IX. 10% less solid waste by 2025

- ✓ Installed an extensive waste infrastructure, completing 60% of the buildings in FY21
- ✓ Organized virtual waste outreach events
- Implemented testing to standardize recipe use by Dining Services to reduce redundant waste

Target X. 45% reduction of Greenhouse gas emissions by 2030

- ✓ Issued RFI for energy transformation consulting
- ✓ Worked with UW Solar to complete Campus Solar Plan