



**SLCgreen**

**2016 Year in Review**

**Salt Lake City Sustainability Department**

## Mission

The Salt Lake City Sustainability Department aims to preserve and improve our built and natural environments and provide residents information on sustainability issues affecting Salt Lake City. The Department of Sustainability develops goals and strategies to protect our natural resources, reduce pollution, slow climate change, and establish a path toward greater resiliency and vitality for all aspects of our community.

## Executive Summary

The Salt Lake City Sustainability Department was created in July 2016 under Mayor Jackie Biskupski to emphasize the City's commitment to improve air quality and protect our natural resources. Prior to becoming a stand-alone department, Sustainability was one of four divisions housed within the Public Services Department.

## Organization and Management

Two divisions make up the Sustainability Department: **The Energy & Environment Division** and the **Waste & Recycling Division**, both funded within the Refuse Fund Class.

An Organization Chart is attached as Exhibit A.

## Sustainability Energy and Environment Division

City and County Building  
451 South State Street, Room 148  
Salt Lake City, Utah

The Sustainability Energy & Environment (E&E) Division serves to ensure that Salt Lake City Corporation departments comply with all applicable environmental regulations and guides City-wide policy and practice to minimize the environmental impact of the community and of city operations. The E&E Program specifically focuses on **Environmental Compliance, Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies, Air Quality, Energy Conservation, Renewable Energy, and Food Security.**

## Budget

The Sustainability E&E Division is supported financially primarily through on-going dividends from the Salt Lake Valley Landfill and proceeds from recycled materials.

The Sustainability Department received a \$7.0 million one-time payment from the Salt Lake Valley Landfill in 2010-2011. The Salt Lake Valley Landfill is co-owned by the County and City. In compliance with General Accounting Standards, the Landfill budget includes reserve funds to plan for the eventual closure and post-closure maintenance needed at the Landfill site. Based on projection of the closure date, reserve balances, and in keeping with the accounting requirements, the County and City Councils approved a disbursement from the account of \$14 million (\$7 million to each owner) in 2010-2011.

Initially the funds were divided with \$1.5 million placed in the operations fund to bolster its fund balance and the remaining \$5.5 million was placed in the environmental and energy fund for use toward sustainability projects. In FY17, \$1.5 million was transferred from the operations fund to the environmental and energy fund. To date, \$4,989,000 has been committed and allocated to sustainability related projects. An Expense Report is attached as Exhibit B.

## **Communications**

Salt Lake City Green (SLCgreen) is the external brand for Salt Lake City's Sustainability Department. Salt Lake City Green is a registered trademark of Salt Lake City Corporation. SLCgreen strives to be the leading voice in "all things green in SLC" – encouraging a robust dialogue about the importance of reducing our community impact on the environment to ensure our city is a vibrant, healthy and sustainable place to live, work and play. A key role of SLCgreen is also to help promote and publicize the practical resources—including those generated by the Sustainability Department and other City programs—that are available for residents and businesses to use in reducing their environmental impact. Internally, the communications position also supports the Sustainability Department's employee education initiatives and outreach to help reduce SLC Corp's environmental footprint.

Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Attended 30 community events in diverse areas of Salt Lake City, to provide educational material on sustainability, the City's recycling programs, the Urban Greens Market, and ways residents can be involved in reducing their environmental impact.
- Updated metrics on 2015 Sustainability Dashboard, and began re-design for 2020 goals and re-launch.
- Launched new SLCgreen website with easy-to-understand information on Sustainability programs, City services, and actionable items for residents and businesses to use in reducing their environmental impact.
- Produced content for SLCgreen blog and sent out weekly SLCgreen newsletter to 1,200 individuals.
- Achieved social media list growth, with nearly 5,200 followers on Facebook, 4,800 on Twitter, and 1,000 on Instagram.

## **E2 Business Program**

The e2 Business program is the city's primary vehicle for engaging local businesses on sustainable business practices. Taking the form of a business association for advocates of sustainable principals, the e2 program supports its 100+ members with individual consulting, e2 program certification, educational opportunities, networking events, regular communications, and a direct access to SLC green resources and expertise.

Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Mayor Biskupski hosted e2 program night/Green Drinks collaboration at City & County Building with nearly 100 in attendance
- E2 program debuted its first "Clear the Air Challenge" team recognizing leaders with internal team prizes
- Launched first radio promotion campaign with KUER
- Implemented annual consultation appointment campaign, complete with updated Mayor-signed certificates, for each e2 business member
- E2 members collaborated on creation of Salt Lake City Business Recycling toolkit

## Environmental Compliance

The Sustainability E&E Division is responsible for completing environmental permits and remedial investigations of contaminated sites as required by the Department of Environmental Quality. The Program provides regulatory support and training to internal departments on environmental issues and manages environmental compliance for the Salt Lake Valley Landfill.

Notable achievements for 2016 include:

- Completed the North Temple Brownfields Grant, awarded by the US EPA in 2012, to identify environmentally compromised sites and conduct Environmental Site Assessments. Completion of this grant opens up a 319 acre area for redevelopment
- Completed \$3 million project upgrading landfill gas collection system
- Completed updates to Landfill Master Plan, Landfill Gas Master Plan, and the Landfill Closure Plan

## Internal Policy and Employee Engagement

The Sustainability E&E Division establishes internal policies and local ordinances that will support our mission.

Notable achievements for 2016 include:

- Created the City's first Comprehensive Sustainability Policy for internal City operations, which will be incorporated in new employee and supervisor training in 2017.
- Launched Empower SLC, an online platform to engage City staff on a range of sustainability issues, including: Air Quality, Energy, Transportation, and Waste & Recycling. The platform is both educational and action-oriented, with suggestions for employees to reduce their impact at home and at work.
- Created and managed a January Travelwise challenge for employees, to encourage carpooling, transit use, active transportation, and other travelwise strategies during Salt Lake City's inversion season.
- Organized a SLC Corp team for the annual Clear the Air Challenge, held in July each year. This included monitoring departmental teams, identifying employees going above-and-beyond to reduce single-occupancy trips, and highlighting their commuting "story" in all-employee emails.
- Organized successful January and July Travelwise/Clear the Air employee challenges to reduce emissions and promote alternative transportation.
- Chosen as one of five Cities to participate in the Healthy Babies Bright Futures' Bright Cities initiative to reduce toxic neurochemical exposures to infants during their first 1,000 days.
- Worked interdepartmentally to draft the Sustainable Infrastructure Executive Order. The final draft has been transmitted to the Mayor's office and is waiting for execution.

Top Priorities for 2017 include:

- Launch Phase 2 of Healthy Babies Bright Futures' Bright Cities initiative, implementing priority recommendations identified in Phase 1.
- Initiate Sustainable Infrastructure steering committee, established through executive order. Create the Sustainable Infrastructure evaluation process.

## Air Quality and Climate Change

The Sustainability E&E Division develops strategies to improve air quality and address climate change through vehicle emission reductions, conserving electricity and natural gas, and reducing other sources of pollution.

Notable achievements for 2016 include:

- Mayor Biskupski and the City Council adopted a Joint Resolution committing to 100% renewable energy for the community electricity supply by 2032 and an 80% reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. The resolution also committed to 50% renewable energy for internal electricity use by 2020.
- Launched the Utah Climate Action Network at an April 2016 event. The Network is a partnership across multiple sectors with the mission of "Fostering diverse conversation, leadership, and coordinated action to ensure a collaborative response to climate change and its impacts on the people, economies, and prosperity of Utah."
- Developed the Climate Positive webpage and an associated plan that will be published in January 2017 to highlight the City's community climate goals and near-term implementation priorities.
- Led ongoing exploration of climate resiliency measures for the community, including hosting a local climate change disasters workshop with FEMA and sharing best practices with Intermountain West and Southwest partner cities as part of a Western Adaptation Alliance Peer Exchange.
- Collaborated with the University of Utah and Utah Clean Energy on a discounted electric vehicle program titled U Drive Electric. Participating dealers along the Wasatch Front offered discounts on plug-in vehicles, resulting in more than 130 all-electric and plug-in hybrids being sold or leased to community members.
- Leveraged grant funding from the Utah Division of Air Quality to procure 28 new Level 2 electric vehicle charging ports that will be installed at 11 separate public locations in early 2017.
- Continued to reduce emissions and save operational costs through the procurement of cleaner City fleet vehicles and enhanced vehicle management. The City now operates over 115 hybrids, 24 CNG and a dozen all-electric vehicles in its government fleet.
- Updated the City's municipal and community greenhouse gas footprints to include data through calendar year 2015 and reported associated emissions to the Carbon Disclosure Project.
- Convened public process including stakeholder meetings and community council presentations to establish community consensus on energy efficiency best practices and transmitted the Building Energy Performance ordinance to council.
- Convened a five-part energy efficiency workshop series with Project Skyline partners and participants on the topics of efficiency financing, tenant-building manager collaboration, automated energy benchmarking, Better Buildings participation, and green building appraisal
- Mayor's Skyline Challenge-Publicly recognized four commercial building owners/operators at the Mayor's Skyline Challenge awards ceremony in July for their community leadership in energy efficiency.

Top Priorities for 2017 include:

- Convene a collaborative air quality group to advance local air quality initiatives.
- Sustain leadership role in Utah Climate Action Network.
- Install electric vehicle charging ports at 11 separate public locations.
- Support for consideration a new energy benchmarking ordinance for large commercial buildings.

## Energy

The Sustainability E&E Division implements and supports ways to save energy through efficiency and conservation while also leading renewable energy project development and policy.

Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Finalized a Clean Energy Cooperation Statement between Salt Lake City and Rocky Mountain Power. This document highlights how the City and electric utility will collaborate on a number of energy and emissions reduction goals, including joint development of an Implementation Plan to help the City achieve 100% renewable energy for its community electricity supply. The City also signed a five year Franchise Agreement with Rocky Mountain Power in 2016.
- Signed an Interlocal Agreement with Park City and Summit County and jointly funded a 100% renewable energy feasibility study for all three communities. Partnered with these municipalities to contract for expert services to develop the study, which will be released in early 2017.
- Continued to participate in numerous legislative and regulatory matters impacting clean energy and energy choice. Supported fair pricing and equitable access to the electric grid for renewable energy developed at all scales in Utah through the net metered solar and Schedule 34 dockets.
- Guided ongoing implementation of internal Comprehensive Energy Management Plans that ensure efficient operations of City facilities through requirements such as energy benchmarking, staff training, audits, equipment retrofits and recommissioning.
- Enrolled 90 separate municipal electric meters in the Rocky Mountain Power Subscriber Solar program. These meters collectively subscribed to 3.0 megawatts of solar energy, accounting for 15% of the total subscription statewide, and this power will be placed on the grid at a locked-in energy generation charge for 20 years starting in January 2017.
- Procured installation services for solar arrays that will be installed on seven separate municipal buildings in 2017, including five fire stations, a police facility and the Regional Athletic Complex restroom. Also participated in the Design Review Committee for two new Net Zero fire stations that will be constructed in 2016-17.
- Published a Municipal Energy Benchmarking & Greenhouse Gas Emissions report, highlighting energy performance across City facilities and departments, along with the carbon footprint of City operations.
- Salt Lake City received Governor's Excellence in Energy Award for completion of two-year Department of Energy Data Accelerator project in partnership with Rocky Mountain Power, resulting in automated energy benchmarking service for commercial customers of PacifiCorp across five states.
- Committed Salt Lake City for inclusion in the 2017 American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy city scorecard.

Top priorities for 2017 include:

- Install solar on seven separate municipal facilities, and install publicly accessible electric vehicle charging stations at eleven city-owned sites.
- Finalize pathway to meet 50% renewable energy goal for municipal operations by 2020.
- Finalize and publish Climate Positive 2040 plan, which details the ways the City will meet its goal of reducing greenhouse gases 80% compared to 2009 levels by 2040.
- Publish 100% renewable electricity joint feasibility study.
- Publish clean energy implementation plan, which further details how to reach 100% renewable electricity generation.

## Food

The Sustainability E&E Program promotes and facilitates community-based food production and access to healthy, nutritious local food.

Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Launched the Urban Greens Mobile Market to add eight new points of sale in the Glendale/Poplar Grove area, which increased access to healthy, local food for residents living in food deserts – areas of low access to supermarkets or outlets that sell fresh, nutritious food.
- Partnered with the University of Utah Praxis Lab's Excess SLC and the Salt Lake County Health Department to implement the MEANS Database which connects organizations with surplus food, to food assistance outlets. Excess SLC will coordinate student volunteers to transport the surplus food to food assistance outlets in 2017.
- Established a new community garden in the Liberty Wells neighborhood that serves over 35 families.
- In partnership with a local business, continued the development of a Culinary Incubator Kitchen, which will provide accessible and affordable commercial kitchen space to budding food entrepreneurs, in addition to regulatory, marketing and business resources.
- Continued partnership with the Green Urban Lunch Box (GULB) to harvest fruit trees. To date the program has donated almost 150,000 pounds of fruit.
- Created the Local Food Microgrant Fund to assist local farmers grow more diversified and sustainable produce, which will launch in January 2017.

Top priorities for 2017 include:

- Host grand opening of the culinary incubator kitchen.
- Launch Local Food Microgrant program.
- Pilot urban farming project on underutilized city property in Glendale to increase production of healthy food.
- Establish a new community garden to serve Poplar Grove and Glendale neighborhoods.
- Harvest 80,000 pounds of fruit through the SLC Fruitshare program.
- Continue the Urban Greens Mobile Market in low food access neighborhoods.

## Waste & Recycling Division

Sanitation Operations  
2010 West 500 South  
Salt Lake City, UT

The Waste & Recycling Division is a component of the Refuse Fund and is the operational unit of the Sustainability Department. Through a joint resolution signed in 2011, the City set a goal of Zero Waste by 2040 and a goal of diverting (recycle or compost) 70% of the waste stream by 2025. The program diverted 40.5% of the waste stream in FY15-16.

The Waste & Recycling Division is responsible for effectively managing the City's residential waste stream while encouraging waste reduction and diverting recyclable and compostable materials to their highest and best use.



## **Budget**

The Waste & Recycling Division is funded by the Refuse Enterprise Fund and supported by monthly waste collection fees assessed to residential properties.

## **Core Services**

Core services include: weekly curbside garbage, recycling and compost collection; glass recycling; neighborhood cleanup; holiday tree collection; education and enforcement; special event and construction & demolition permit reviews; and implementation of business & multi-family recycling. There are 41,998 residential waste and recycling accounts.

Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Can downsizing campaign
- Three collection events for hard-to-recycle materials
- Curbside mattress collection
- Coordinated illegal dumping response and cleanup with Salt Lake County Health Dept.
- Investment in two recycling market studies in partnership with Salt Lake County
- Increased special event waste diversion

Top priorities for 2017 include:

- Re-evaluating Neighborhood Cleanup Program
- Market development for recycling
- Increasing and measuring construction and demolition debris diversion
- Greater participation in reduction and reuse strategies
- Developing strategies for zero-waste events

## **Business and Multi-family Recycling**

In December 2015 the City Council passed an ordinance requiring recycling services for businesses and multi-family complexes. The ordinance is phased in, and requires all providers of waste and recycling services to register to become an authorized hauler, and businesses and multi-family buildings to subscribe to recycling services within two years (January 2018).

Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Authorized 10 haulers
- Held two informational workshops for property managers and businesses
- Developed an online and print toolkit for property managers and businesses

Top priorities for 2017 include:

- Continue outreach to property owners and businesses who are not on the City's email list.
- Develop required processes for implementing Business Recycling ordinance.
- Establish baseline metrics to quantify diversion for Business Recycling ordinance.

## **Landfill Support**

The Waste and Recycling Division supports the landfill by providing direction on improving infrastructure at the landfill to improve the compost operation to address food waste and organics diversion.



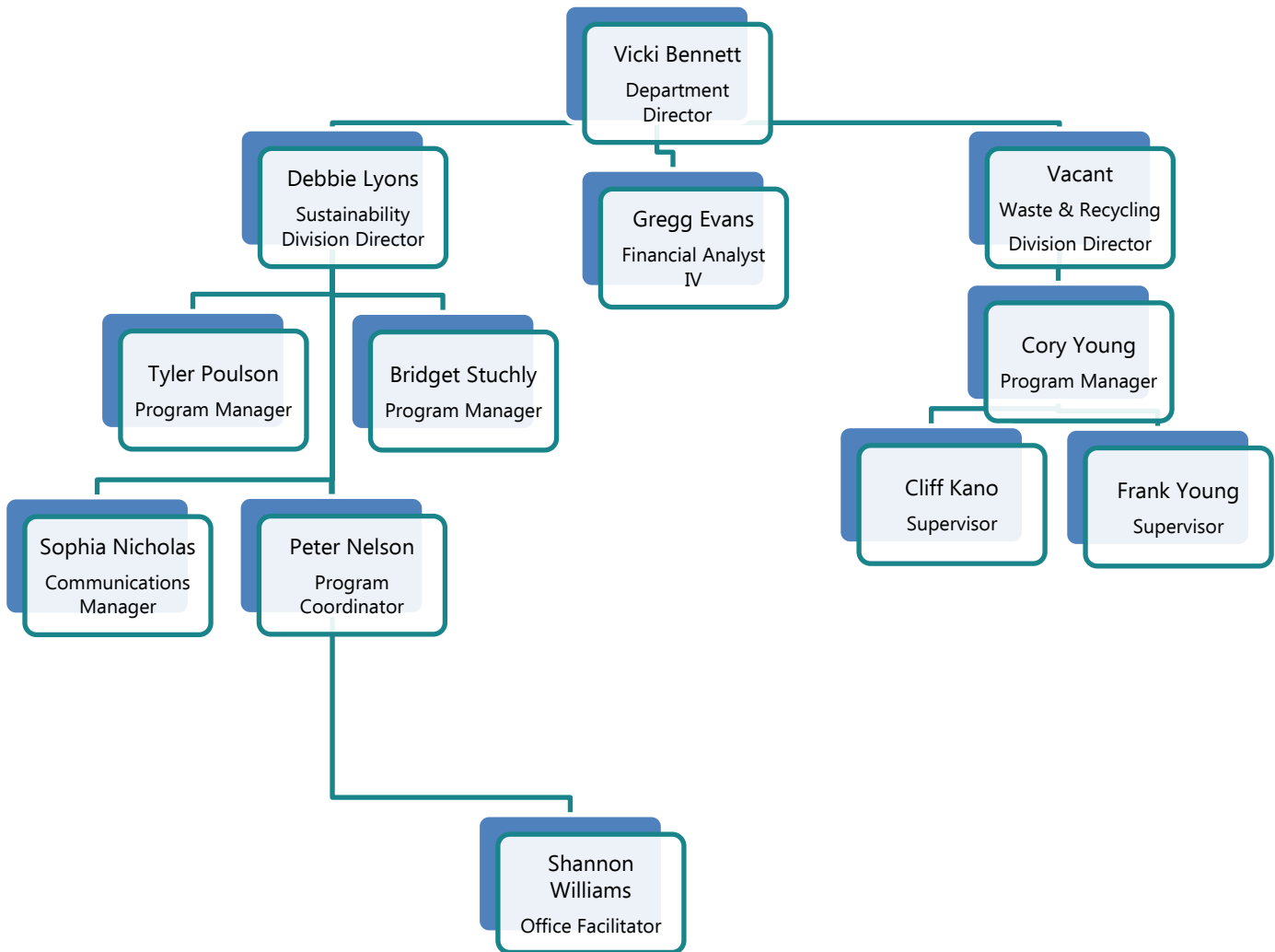
Notable achievements in 2016 include:

- Conducted a pilot study for an alternative composting method
- Conducted thorough operational analysis
- Plan adopted by Landfill Council to transition operations
- Initiated procurements for new equipment

Top priorities for 2017 include:

- Management and fiscal structure
- Infrastructure and site constraints
- Establishing baselines and metrics
- Right-sizing equipment to meet demand
- Continuing pilot studies for alternative methods capable of handling food waste

# Exhibit A – Organization Chart



## Exhibit B – Budget to Actuals Report for \$5.5 million Landfill Disbursement

	Year	Total Project Budget	Total Actual Expense
<b>Completed and Approved to Date:</b>			
Community Food Chain Study	FY11	110,000	114,875
Solar Study	FY11	100,000	67,463
GPS Units	FY12	16,000	15,435
Photovoltaic Array: electricity	FY12	1,500,000	1,500,000
Photovoltaic Array: infrastructure	FY13	300,000	300,000
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens	FY13	22,500	22,500
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens	FY14	22,500	22,500
Climate Adaptation - Brendle Consultant	FY14	120,000	107,616
Energy Efficiency projects - Employee Engagement Portal	FY15 Approved	50,000	28,014
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens Contract thru FY2019	FY15 Approved	22,500	22,500
Install 4 CNG pumps for street sweepers at Refuse CNG station	FY15 Approved	20,000	20,000
One-time Replace two cycle engine tools (1st Transfer)	FY15 Approved	162,500	162,500
BA#1 Fruit Share Program (3 year commitment) Yr1	FY15 Approved	35,000	35,000
BA#1 Revolving Loan items Chiller	FY15 Approved	200,000	200,000
BA#1 Revolving Loan items Lighting	FY15 Approved	200,000	200,000
BA#2 Incubator Kitchen Grant Portion	FY15 Approved	250,000	24,161
BA#2 Incubator Kitchen Loan Portion	FY15 Approved	250,000	250,000
BA#2 FINNI Grant Support	FY15 Approved	60,000	60,000
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens Contract thru FY2019	FY16 Approved	22,500	22,500
BA#1 Fruit Share Program (3 year commitment) Yr2	FY16 Approved	35,000	35,000
One-time Replace two cycle engine tools (2nd & Final Transfer)	FY16 Approved	162,500	162,500
Facilities Commissioning Authority 1 FTE (1 year commitment)	FY16 Approved	110,000	110,000
Solar on City Facilities (Focus will be on Fire Stations)	FY16 Approved	731,500	114,377
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens Contract thru FY2019	FY17 Approved	22,500	11,250
BA#1 Fruit Share Program (3 year commitment) Yr3	FY17 Approved	35,000	0
EV Charging Stations Installation Costs	FY17 Approved	115,000	0
Carbon Reduction Roadmap	FY17 Approved	100,000	0
Develop Local Food Microgrant fund (2 year commitment)	FY17 Approved	85,000	0
Climate Network (3 year commitment)	FY17 Approved	45,000	0
FY17 MRB - One-time Funds to Cover Solar Permit Fee Revenue	FY17 Approved	39,000	0
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens Contract thru FY2019	FY18 Committed	22,500	0
CDBG / Wasatch Community Gardens Contract thru FY2019	FY19 Committed	22,500	0
<b>Total Completed &amp; Approved to date</b>		<b>4,989,000</b>	<b>3,608,190</b>
<b>\$5.5M Business Plan Proposals - Endorsed by Council</b>			
Local Food System		32,500	
Expanding Green waste to include Food		370,000	
Energy Efficiency projects additional loan fund		108,500	
<b>Total Business Plan Proposal Remaining (Endorsed by Council)</b>		<b>511,000</b>	
<b>Total undesignated</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>Last Updated: 11/30/16</b>			