

Sustainability Advisory Board

Agenda

May 7, 2025

Council Chambers, City Hall

749 Main St

6:30 PM

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to +1 833 928 4610 (Toll Free)
Meeting ID **#846 2865 9916**
Meeting Password # **239019**
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: www.louisvilleco.gov/sustainabilityboard.

The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at HMiller@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Kevin is the secretary for April, back up is Kristen
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
 - a. 3 minutes per comment.
- VI. Administrative Tasks
- VII. Staff Updates – 10 minutes
- VIII. Discussion Item: LSAB Budget Recommendation Memo Approval- 5 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, or taped material, should contact the City Clerk's Office (303.335.4536 or 303.335.4574) or ClerksOffice@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574 o email ClerksOffice@LouisvilleCO.gov.

City of Louisville

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303.335.4534 (phone) www.LouisvilleCO.gov

- b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. LSAB Discussion and Direction
- IX. Discussion Item: LSAB Outreach and Education_Farmer's Market Tabling- 10 mins
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair
 - b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. Discussion and Direction
- X. Discussion Item: LSAB_ City Council Collaborative Mtg Debrief- 15 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair
 - b. LSAB Discussion
- XI. Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB Legislative Agenda Discussion- 30 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair with support from Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
 - b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. LSAB Discussion and Direction
- XII. Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB Comp Plan Memo – 30 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair with support from Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
 - b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. LSAB Discussion and Direction
- XIII. Adjourn

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Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

From: Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
Logan Johnson, Sustainability Specialist

Date: April 30, 2025

Re: Staff Updates

Budget Recommendations

Staff are actively collaborating as part of the 2025 budget process. Louisville follows a biennial (two-year) budget cycle, and this year is focused on critical funding requests only. Personnel and operational asks <\$10,000 were due May 1.

Events

- Parco Dello Zingaro (PDZ) Hard-to-Recycle Event
Originally scheduled for earlier this spring, the PDZ event was postponed due to inclement weather. Staff have identified a date to reschedule the event.
July 19, 2025 | Parco Dello Zingaro Mobile Home Community | 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Boulder County Solar Switch (formerly Switch Together)
A solar co-op information session was held in partnership with East Boulder County jurisdictions to help residents learn more about joining the program.
April 17 | Lafayette Public Library | 6:00 p.m.
- Earth Day, Every Day
Celebrated sustainability at this fun, family-friendly event! Allison coordinated an interactive activity for our table.
April 26 | Lafayette's Outdoor Classroom | 10:00 a.m.
- Electrification Expo
Learn about clean energy technologies and explore ways to electrify your home and lifestyle. Held in collaboration with Lafayette and Superior.
May 10 | Superior Community Center | 12 p.m.
- Rain Barrel Workshop
Learn how to implement a rain barrel water conservation system for your residence! Held in collaboration with Boulder County. 100 attendees are signed up!
May 10 | Louisville Recreation Center | 2 p.m.



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

Earth Day, Every Day saw approximately 2,000 attendees! Thank you to Allison, her husband and Kevin for staffing the LSAB booth. The Boulder County Solar Co-op event saw approximately 20 attendees.

Colorado Resilience (CORE) Intern

Sustainability staff will be onboarding an intern the first week of May. Erin Spencer is our intern, she will focus on the creation of adaptation/resilience programming, hosting a wildfire mitigation event and working on the Division's communications to align with best practices from Yale Climate Communications.



Sustainability Advisory Board

April 2025

Allison Kay, Chair

Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager

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 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair
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- II. Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB Legislative Agenda Discussion- 60 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair with support from Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
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- IV. Adjourn

Discussion Item: LSAB_Budget Recommendation Memo Approval- 5 minutes

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- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion

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LSAB May 2025 Meeting

- Discussion Items for Next Meeting
 - Legislative Agenda Memo Approval
- Adjourn



**City of
Louisville**
City Manager's Office

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board
From: Nisa Bradley, LSAB Member
Date: April 29, 2025
Re: April 16 LSAB Minutes

I. Call to Order: 649 pm

a. Nisa is the secretary for April

II. Roll Call

In attendance: Kristin, Kevin, Nisa, Aubrey, Todd, Allison (online)

Staff: Logan, Hannah, Jeff Hirt

III. Approval of Agenda

Agenda Approved: Motion: Kevin Second: Todd

IV. Approval of Minutes

Minutes Approved. Motion: Aubrey Second: Nisa

V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

a. 3 minutes per comment.

RJ Harrington 457 E Raintree Ct

How does LSAB alert citizens when a meeting is cancelled &/or moved?

Commentary on placement of meeting notice and where meeting notes were posted

VI. Administrative Tasks

a. Reminder for Earth Day, Every Day LSAB tabling opportunity

VII. Staff Updates – 10 minutes

VIII. Discussion Item: Comprehensive Plan Update- 50 minutes

a. Jeff Hirt, Planning Manager

See slides from meeting packet. Have heard from 2,000+ people, about 10% of community

network that is inclusive and inter-connected.

- Environmental Sustainability: We value climate action, environmental resilience, and adaptation to promote environmental sustainability for the enduring vitality of our community.

Taking input to inform the draft now. Opportunity to review the draft by members of the public in early July, with late summer adoption for Council

Key Questions for discussion in the room:

1. What are the most important things to capture within LSAB's role in describing the Plan's goals and strategies?
2. What goals and strategies are missing from this initial list related to environmental sustainability?

b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)

Catherine Smith - Ward III

Looking for balance between resources we have and the rate of growth. Current proposal envisions a rate of growth around 70%. Questions whether we have adequate resources to grow at this rate. Feels city commitment needs to become stronger as federal commitment lessens, and needs to be articulated in a very clear way. Would like to see commitment to sustainability strengthened. ie: Biodiversity and the ecosystem: Trees tend to exist in very limited areas here naturally. Our canopy is artificial, and bird population has changed because of it. Not opposed to trees for shading/cooling, but pointing out this isn't the same as biodiversity and maintaining native populations.

Laura Lebeck - Ward III

Questions - what does the development code entail? And what kind of "teeth" does this document have? ie on new development, can we change codes and regulations, and how does that influence future buildouts?

Tamar Krantz

Concerned that City Council direction has weighed more than public input. Facilitates increased residential density. Need to better explore the magnitude of growth. Asking us to focus on areas of change, and how it can be focused in a sustainable way. We were in crisis mode after the Marshall Fire, but this is not a crisis. We need to do it sustainably. Shared quotes from previous LSAB previous commentary and plan. Does not have the confidence that this is going to happen. ie - what if we

required underground parking garages and save surfaces for gardens? Energy Codes can be inserted now as a part of rezoning in a way that won't happen if we wait until later. Refers to OSAB - want specific areas on the map. Where to put specific assets like solar gardens? etc

John Cowley - Ward III

Watching SAP for 4 years. Nice words, but worried well-sounding words aren't implemented without something specific. We are talking about 10-20 years in the future. Not now. What specific things would we like to see in order to meet these higher-level goals? ie - what about youth activity zone with parks, food courts, game rooms, etc. Build in an acre (or some measure of space) that is specifically focused on this? Learning concept with wildlife and gardens, art classes, makerspace. Might attract a lot of people who want to live in walking distance. How are you going to reduce greenhouse gases?

RJ Harrington Ward III

Emphasizing and '+1' everything said by Laura, Tamar, John. Lived here 14 years ago when last comprehensive plan started. 450 families participated, many have moved away, but a core group of 20 families requested many of these same things. Sustainability is core to our ability to preserve our biosphere. The fact that we don't have a deep draft but we are going to be adopting it in 3-4 mos is concerning. We are already 3 years late. Remember that Redtail Ridge is now approved without any of these ideals in it. Perhaps to Laura's point, we can push hard to get codes into the other zones. Can we get what we need to do? Yes we can. We can build safe, affordable, comfortable structures with the passive house standards.

c. LSAB Discussion and Direction

Kristin - Feels LSAB can help with sustainability factors. Sees very tiny green spaces in the current plan. How can we make sure it happens? What percentage of green space should there be in the plan? Expect to see more details in the common themes.

Jeff: Ensure balance between being specific (ie mandating a percentage of green space) and flexible.

Kristin - Important to ensure we are considering equity and getting more diverse voices involved.

Nisa - Really thoughtful comments were submitted by the public - touched on lots of our key themes that we've been talking about. Opportunity to be leaders that other communities look at. We look at other communities too, and see some exciting flagship projects that help us to see what is possible. Can we conceive of and bring a flagship project into the municipality that we can identify with as a community? Need to be practical and implement specifics.

Todd - Where did the 6 stated goals in the plan outline come from? If you didn't hear more from us, you would take the 6 goals and infuse those into the plan,, right? The 6 all hit home, remain relevant. But definitely need more specifics than what is given here.

Kristin - What if there was a sub-bullet for what we are already doing as a community for each of the 6? Perhaps a link to our plan. A summary of what's already being done?

Nisa - Can we see examples from other cities? A spectrum of examples that can spark the imagination. It's hard to look at a list of what we are doing and high-level guidelines and envision what is missing, but if we see examples, those help us to envision and build from there.

Kevin - Need more specifics and definition in the plan. ex: improve tree canopy - how? More native trees, etc. tighten up language. For example, not necessarily evaluate, but also implement. Can we add in that zones must be all-electric, etc?

Jeff - yes. An example is Community Benefits. ie in exchange for more density and height, developers could be required to provide amenities from a menu of options like affordable housing, open space, etc.

Kevin - Worries that expense will drive the discussion and deprioritize our sustainability needs. Developer priority is making money, not building a sustainable community that we are all going to live in in the future.

Jeff - Developer code update is more specific, and it will come after the comprehensive plan. Projects must show policy consistency with the comprehensive plan, but developer code really layers in the specifics. Will start toward the end of the year.

Nisa - Affordability is really important framing for sustainability. Will share climate change communication webinar replay URL that was from yesterday. Touches on some of these topics of how to infuse affordability into sustainability messages.

(See URL here: ["Local Voices, Global Impact: Municipal Governments Leading Climate Change Communication"](#) by the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, featuring Emily Gedeon, Director of Communications and Engagement for Denver's Office of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency)

Allison - Mentioned specific cities whose comprehensive plans she really liked, and some of the key elements like workforce training, etc. Didn't see that kind of language in the draft that was shared.

Next step for LSAB is to consider writing a letter to council regarding the comprehensive plan. Do we want to form a small committee that addresses memo to review in next meeting?

Jeff- Sooner is better because it would inform the public review draft.

Todd: Discussion of memo writing - will be a rearticulation of many of the concepts here. Will be moving our LSAB meeting up to earlier in May and create a June meeting to be added to our calendar. Will identify a writer at that time. More detailed LSAB input likely to take multiple meetings. We will read public elements and whatever is possible.

IX. Discussion Item: LSAB_ City Council Collaborative Mtg Debrief- 15 minutes

a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair

b. LSAB Discussion

Will move to next meeting in interest of time. Will include minutes that Nisa took from council

Nisa to clean up notes and send to Hannah Miller for inclusion in packets and sharing.

Kevin moves to move this topic to next meeting. Todd seconds.

X. Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB Budget Recommendations- 25 Minutes

a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair with support from Hannah Miller,
Sustainability Manager

See slides and topic in packet for list of suggestions.

Capstone is a 9 mos project

b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)

Cathern (online attendee) - Feels the budgetary proposal might be a very practical response to current political climate. However it feels like the focus becomes data gathering and communications as stated. What are you giving up?

John - Boulder Country GHG inventory breaks down by towns in the county. Can we use this and save money vs creating or own? Secondly almost all of our reduction in carbon footprint is from Xcel's reduction in emissions factor. City of Louisville hasn't cut emissions, and he calculates we have 25-30% more reductions to achieve. How will these plans cut our emissions another 25-30%?

Tamar - Question re: yard signs. When this was discussed, wasn't sure what that is? Is it duplicating what industries are already doing? Hope we aren't putting plastic signs out that "we love the earth." If we are talking about GHG, and we are looking at overall increase in population growth, it is important to look at both per capita and overall emissions to ensure we understand environmental effects, especially in the WUI. Thinks code rewrite will help streamline the development process (per council guidance) but would like to see someone in sustainability who can review codes, etc. Realizes there may be associated costs here.

RJ Harrington - Question - does Hannah's recommendation replace Allison's? If so, great If not, if there is a sustainability event budget, he recommends it's planned with the metroplex calendar. There is so much duplication in calendaring, it's hard to break through with all the competition.

c. LSAB Discussion and Direction

Kevin - in transition from CAP to Workplan discussion, there is \$25k for development of a strategy for community engagement. What about considering membership in the Sustainable Neighborhoods

association? Perhaps this could be run by the communication manager. It is \$25k per year to get started, plus \$15k per year, plus a part time person.

Hannah: Was previously presented but cut from budget

Aubrey - Boulder did something very similar to our Climate Risk assessment - can we work with them to try to avoid duplication? There must be some similarities.

Hannah - Could potentially look at IGA to see if you can lean on staff who did this and ensure there was a backup. Boulder County has historically hosted the GHG inventory. Not sure when they plan to do one next.

Todd - Would the inventory be more detailed?

Hannah - No, it would align with Global Protocol.

Nisa comments - Like having budget for events but could smaller events be considered? Love the idea of creating a branding concept, but will take more work and budget than is shown. The prework for creating a meaningful brand takes a lot of time, and there needs to be budget for promotion, not just creation of the brand.

Todd - Likes the workplan shortening, seems adaptive and makes a lot of sense. Branding - could probably find someone really passionate in the community to help.

Nisa - Does not like the Cincinnati site as an example of a community-facing dashboard. It is technical, and not as easily understandable. How do we make sure our communications are understandable by the public? Likes the resiliency assessment.

Kristin - Seconds both of those.

->Vote taken - Unanimous Board agreement to move from CAP to workplan (2 year cycle). General concept, and associated budget value, if approved by Council, would bring a detailed plan to LSAB by the end of the year for the transition.

Hannah - Program for business funding, was very powerful for businesses, but felt they needed more funds to make an impact than \$1,000

-> Vote taken - Unanimous Board support to relevel the budget values

Kristin - The name "Work Plan" is not at all compelling, can we call it something else?

Hannah - We will workshop it. Has some ideas.

Allison - We will write a memo to Council on these topics.

Last item is a budget recommendation.



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

Kristin - Likes the Sustainable Neighborhood idea. Seems more comprehensive than yard signs. Doesn't know enough about it to say yes. Feels requesting a communication manager is a little ambitious, but OK with it if we think we can get it.

Hannah - Currently have \$10k as a budget for events. If we want to include \$15k should probably be framed as "an additional" 15k budget for total of \$25k. Community outreach budget is already \$10k for events. As an example, it costs about \$6k to send a postcard to every home in Louisville. Also likes the idea of the sustainable neighborhoods program.

->Unanimous vote of approval for Hannah's recommendation in memo.

Allison volunteered to write the memo. Hannah will help her workshop it between now and May 7. To be included in the May 7 agenda for approval. Council meeting is May 16.

XI. Adjourn

Kevin moved to adjourn, Kristin seconded.

Memorandum

To: Louisville City Council Members
From: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board
Date: May 7, 2025
Re: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board Budget

Recommendations Memo

Dear Council Members,

First, we want to thank the City Council for taking the time to meet with members of the Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board (LSAB) earlier this year. We found the discussion to be very helpful and appreciated the opportunity to engage directly with you. The joint meeting was an extremely insightful opportunity to better understand the city's evolving priorities and vision for the future. We especially valued the thoughtful dialogue and hearing from multiple Council Members about the increasing need for enhanced climate communications as a key component of our collective sustainability efforts.

Budget Recommendations to Support Climate Communications and Engagement

In response to this identified need, we would like to recommend four targeted budget items for the upcoming fiscal year. These recommendations aim to close the climate communications gap and engage the community more effectively, while also supporting the city's ongoing sustainability initiatives:

1. Sustainability Communications Specialist – \$100,000
 - a. Allocate funding for a full-time Sustainability Communications Specialist. This role would be dedicated to improving public outreach around climate issues, strengthening community engagement, and supporting city staff with grant writing and storytelling efforts that highlight Louisville's already established leadership in sustainability.
2. Sustainability Events Budget – \$15,000
 - a. Provide additional event funding to support the continuation of Ecotoberfest or a similar city-wide community sustainability event. This funding would supplement the current events budget and fill a key gap, ensuring that these valuable community events can continue. Furthermore, it would enable the city to expand participation, foster deeper community involvement, and highlight Louisville's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability.
3. Community Outreach and Communications – \$10,000
 - a. Provide additional funding to the existing communications budget to further elevate the sustainability work already being done in Louisville. This funding would supplement the

current communications budget and support campaigns, materials, and outreach activities that broaden community awareness and participation.

4. Sustainable Neighborhoods Network – \$25,000
 - a. Invest in the Sustainable Neighborhoods Program to leverage an already established and trusted network. This funding would be used to jump start Louisville's participation in the program and utilize the program's already existing infrastructure around climate communications and resident engagement at the neighborhood level.

Together, these budget items represent a strategic and cost-effective approach to deepen public engagement, promote sustainable practices, and ensure Louisville's climate goals are shared and supported throughout the community.

Support for Transitioning from a Climate Action Plan to a Sustainability Work Plan

In addition to these items, the Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board would also like to express its support for the city's transition from the Climate Action Plan to a more dynamic and responsive Sustainability Work Plan model. We believe this shift will allow Louisville to remain nimble in addressing urgent and emerging climate change priorities, while also empowering the city to gather and act upon more localized and relevant emissions and vulnerability data. This approach will better position Louisville to craft personalized, data-driven strategies that reflect the community's unique climate challenges and opportunities.

Support for Rebranding the Commercial Sustainability Grant Program

We also support the rebranding and restructuring of the Commercial Sustainability Grant Program. We recommend adopting the new grant structure that includes five \$1,000 mini-grants, three \$5,000 standard grants, and one or two \$10,000 special grants, depending on available funding. We believe this structure will expand access and impact by allowing businesses of varying sizes and scopes to pursue sustainability improvements tailored to their needs. Additionally, this revised structure will make the program less administratively intensive for city staff, while enabling businesses to secure grant amounts that are more closely aligned with the scale of their projects and the level of funding needed to address their specific needs effectively.

We want to express our sincere thanks for your time and attention in reviewing our recommendations. We deeply appreciate the City Council's continued leadership and commitment to sustainability. Your support plays a vital role in advancing meaningful climate action in Louisville, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration in the months ahead to build a more resilient and sustainable future for our community.

Sincerely,

Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

From: Nisa Bradley, LSAB Member

Date: April 29, 2025

Re: LSAB_City Council Collaborative Mtg Notes_March

Notes pertain to comments and conversations in the room. Allison (LSAB President) made significant additional commentary. Her commentary adhered pretty closely to the slides submitted prior to the meeting, which are in the packet.

Given the current environment, as things change - funding, etc, how are we pivoting our strategy?

DRCOG award is bigger than any other state's. Focused on assisting with decarbonization largely in multifamily homes, job training, more. Not yet disbursed to state. is \$200MM. The state is pursuing these awards. ie Phil Weiser has already filed 5 lawsuits re climate change.

LSAB input on Comprehensive plan will be very valuable. Will be the opportunity to really start at ground zero - defining the right use for our land use choices is even more fundamental for success in sustainability than other work such as energy efficiency.

LSAB might be interested in Utility master plan and wastewater treatment plan - if Council could ask us to take more topics on, they would be interested to hear from us on this topic.

There is a new city manager, who will be meeting with all boards in upcoming weeks.

2024 energy code is coming in 2 months (this is coming up fast!) - will be important to get our input.

Comprehensive plan - planning manager will come to LSAB April meeting.

Council has interest in getting the message out about sustainability. It's sad to hear that there is not an Ecotoberfest on the agenda this year. Though it is understood why this decision was taken, they are very interested to hear how the collaborative event with Lafayette goes which is now planned in its stead. Concern that the Louisville message may get lost. (Earth Day Every Day).



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LSAB's stated objective is to focus on decarbonization. Recognizing this, there is a pain point for Council in that there is no one specifically assigned to advise them on elements outside of decarbonization such as water, etc. They have a fairly good understanding of decarbonization concepts. What's the next intuitive piece to tackle? How do we go about this?

For example, after the Comprehensive Plan, they will be rewriting some of the development codes. What if they made exceptions for affordable housing to keep it more affordable upfront? How does this impact long-term affordability?

Parks, Recreation, Open Space plan is kicking off. There is a lot there which could be sustainability-related, opportunity for additional input and collaboration.

People don't necessarily want to be leaders in every sustainability category - some pushback that some people felt that we've gone too far. Specific voices when meeting with the public, comments indicating that members of the public still have questions.

Website refresh for the city is upcoming and it presents an opportunity to clarify the message and reach more people.

An additional idea is promoting water conservation by using native plants, could provide input on this by working with other advisory boards.