

Sustainability Advisory Board

Agenda

November 19, 2025
Second Floor Meeting Board Room, Library
951 Spruce 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. Todd is secretary
- 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
 - a. December meeting logistics
- VII. Staff Updates – 10 minutes
- VIII. Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB_City Council Legislative Agenda
Memo- 20 minutes

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.

- a. Allison Kay, LSAB Chair with support from Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
 - b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. LSAB Discussion, Direction and/or Approval
- IX. Discussion Item: CORE Internship_Water Conservation Programming Presentation- 45 minutes
 - a. Erin Spencer, Resilience and Sustainability Intern
 - b. LSAB Questions
- X. Adjourn

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

City Manager's Office 749 Main Street Louisville CO 80027
303.335.4534 (phone) www.LouisvilleCO.gov



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

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

Date: November 19, 2025

Re: Staff Updates

Budget Process

City Council has adopted a structurally balanced budget for 2026.

Upcoming Events

Green Business Breakfast – December 4, 7:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. at the Lafayette Library

Past Events

Free Paint Collection Event

The Free Paint Collection event resulted in 26,723 pounds diverted from the landfill!

- 210 residents registered
- 30 cubic-yard boxes collected
- Latex, water-based, and acrylic paints and coatings: 25,453 lbs
- Oil-based paints and coatings: 1,270 lbs

Electrify the Speedway

On November 1 the Louisville Sustainability Division, and other Front Range sustainability divisions, joined to host one of the first electric vehicle ride and drive events where people can test drive an EV on a racetrack. This event was hosted at the Colorado Speedway in Dacono.

- Roughly 150 people showed up with roughly 50 people test driving an EV on the racetrack in a timed skills course

Grant Applications

- The CEO IMPACT Accelerator grant application has been submitted. Louisville was one of the few jurisdictions invited to apply in Round 1. We expect to hear whether we are awarded funding by December 15.



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

- DRCOG Building Policy Collaborative grant funding has been awarded internally. Staff are refining the contract and deliverables, with anticipated contract execution either late this year or early next year. This funding will support hiring a Building Energy Policy and Community Engagement Specialist.
- The Boulder County Annual Sustainability Grant has also been submitted for the 2026 award cycle.

Project Updates

- Internal Decarbonization Plan: Staff are reviewing bids for the electrification and energy-efficiency scope. A contract award will be brought to City Council on the consent agenda in early 2026. Staff are also reviewing EV charger bids and will bring that contract forward on the consent agenda as well.
- The Sustainability Work Plan Project will launch in early 2026.
- Staff are nearing completion of the 2024 Community-Wide Greenhouse Gas Inventory and will share results with LSAB in the new year.
- Commercial Sustainability Rebate is set to launch in January 2026. Further updates and details to follow in the coming months.



Sustainability Advisory Board

November 2025

Allison Kay, Chair

Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager

Agenda

- Call to Order
 - a. Todd is secretary
- Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
 - a. 3 minutes per comment.
- Administrative Tasks
 - December meeting logistics
- Staff Updates – 10 minutes
- Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB_City Council Legislative Agenda Memo- 20 minutes
 - Allison Kay, LSAB Chair with support from Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
 - Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - LSAB Discussion, Direction and/or Approval
- Discussion Item: CORE Internship_Water Conservation Programming Presentation- 45 minutes
 - Erin Spencer, Resilience and Sustainability Intern
 - LSAB Questions
- Adjourn

Discussion and Direction Item: LSAB_ City Council Legislative Agenda Memo Approval- 20 minutes

- Allison Kay, LSAB Chair
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion and Direction

Discussion Item: : CORE Internship_Water Conservation Programming Presentation- 45 minutes

- Erin Spencer, Resilience and Sustainability Intern
- LSAB Questions

Climate Resilience Internship **DELIVERABLES**

Erin Spencer

Intro

QUICK INTRODUCTION

Graduate program: CU
Boulder Masters of the
Environment

Specialization:
Environmental & Energy
Policy

Louisville internship period:
May to December 2025



INTERNSHIP SCOPE



Project Deep Dives

WEBSITE REDESIGN

GOAL

Improve the flow, accessibility, and visibility of the website to better showcase what sustainability looks like in Louisville.

1

Reorganized and recategorized the content of current pages to create a more user-friendly experience.

2

Helped make website content ADA compliant with the help of Logan and consultant.

3

Highlighted efforts and linked back to other divisions to highlight cross-departmental sustainability efforts.

WEBSITE SNIPPETS

OLD

Decarbonization

 Print  Feedback  Share & Bookmark Font Size:  

Resources

[NEW City of Louisville Residential Energy Efficiency and Electrification Rebates](#) (through Boulder County EnergySmart) [Love Electric - Learn More about Home Electrification](#) (air source heat pumps, heat pump hot water heaters, induction stoves)

[Rewiring America](#) - Rebate/Tax Incentive Calculator [2023 Renewable Energy Portfolio](#)

Overview

The City of Louisville and its residents understand the role of energy and the built environment in creating a sustainable and resilient community. Since the original adoption of the Louisville Sustainability Action Plan in 2016, significant steps have been taken in regard to electricity and energy use and as recommended in the original document, the City adopted climate action goals in August of 2019.

Electricity and natural gas are the top two sources of greenhouse gas emissions in Louisville and derives mainly from residential and commercial buildings. Action in this area will improve air quality, reduce home and business energy cost, improve utilization of the electricity system and provide opportunities for regional and state leadership.

NEW

Energy

Why It Matters

Electricity and natural gas usage in homes and businesses are the largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Louisville.

Reducing GHG emissions helps us meet our sustainability and climate goals and build a healthier, more resilient community.

What We're Doing

Since adopting our first [Sustainability Action Plan in 2016](#) and setting science-based climate targets in 2024, Louisville has made measurable progress in:

- Boosting energy efficiency
- Expanding renewable energy
- Electrifying heating and water

WEBSITE SNIPPETS

OLD

Water Conservation

 Print
  Feedback
  Share & Bookmark
 Font Size:  

Resources

[2025 City of Louisville/Resource Central Lawn Replacement Program](#)

Residents/businesses receive up to a \$750 discount

[2025 City of Louisville/Resource Central Garden in a Box Program](#)

Residents/businesses receive \$25 discount

[2025 City of Louisville/Resource Central Slow the Flow Sprinkler Assessments](#)

Residents/businesses receive free assessments

[2025 City of Louisville/Resource Central Waterwise Yard Seminars](#)

No-cost, virtual educational seminars

Clean, plentiful water supply is a critical necessity. Originating as snow melt in the Rocky Mountains, Louisville's water supply provides drinking water for residents and visitors, supports our economy and provides rich habitat for wildlife and enjoyable recreation within the community. Louisville obtains the majority of its water supply from South Boulder Creek as well as the Colorado and Fraser Rivers. To serve residents and businesses, the City has two water treatment plants with capacity to produce up to 13 million gallons per day.

Water in the semi-arid west is a precious resource, and drought is a continuous concern as the climate changes. Through partnerships, programs and resources, Louisville is committed to supporting efficiency and conservation and protecting water quality for our residents, businesses and wildlife populations.

NEW

Water Conservation

Why It Matters

Water is a precious natural resource in Colorado. Water is essential to our health, local economy, environment, and way of life. Our drinking water comes from South Boulder Creek and the Colorado and Fraser Rivers. It gets treated at two local plants with a combined capacity of up to 13 million gallons per day.

As drought conditions continue to intensify across the West, conserving water has never been more important. Using our water wisely helps us:

- Ensure long-term water availability and quality
- Reduce strain on our natural ecosystems
- Cut costs for residents and the City
- Preserve rivers and streams for wildlife and recreation

Local Initiatives

There are many organizations in Boulder County doing great things for our water! Check out these initiatives below.

- [Keep it Clean Partnership \(KICP\)](#)
- [The Boulder Watershed Collective](#)

WEBSITE SNIPPETS

OLD

Circular Economy

 [Print](#)  [Feedback](#)  [Share & Bookmark](#) Font Size:  

Resources

[Resource Central Materials Reuse - Free Pickup for Donations](#)
[Fresh Food Connect](#)
[Boulder County Recycling guidelines](#)

[Eco-Cycle](#)
[Boulder County Hazardous Waste Facility](#)

New Program Alert!

Transform your home renovation into an opportunity for positive impact with Resource Central! Their Zero Waste team will be in Louisville every Tuesday to pick up your old cabinets, countertops, working appliances, or other large items for FREE. Plus, your donation is tax deductible! Resource Central has diverted over 50 million pounds of building materials from landfills while making them available to other community members at an affordable rate. The mission is simple: putting conservation into action. By partnering with community members to donate and reuse materials from renovations and deconstructions, we can all actively diminish the environmental impact and economic cost of new buildings in Colorado. Join us in making a sustainable difference, one donation at a time. To review a list of accepted items and get on the free pickup list, visit <https://resourcecentral.org/reuse/material-donations/>

NEW

Why It Matters

Waste is a major contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, pollution, and natural resource depletion. By changing how we make, use, and throw things away, Louisville can cut our waste, protect the environment, and build a stronger local economy.

What is a Circular Economy?

In a circular economy, materials are reused and repaired, and recycled (as a last resort). Essentially, the goal is to keep materials in use for as long as possible. Instead of a "take-make-dispose" model, a circular economy model reduces waste, conserves resources, and supports reuse and repair.

What We're Doing

We're committed to reducing waste and advancing circular practices across our community. Here's a short-list of what we offer so far:

- Curbside composting and recycling is available to all residents for food scraps, yard waste, and recyclables, which helps to divert 45% of Louisville's waste from the landfill.
- All City facilities and special events provide recycling and composting for employees and

NDME GRANT APPLICATION

GOAL

Revamp wildfire rebate program design and corresponding application for the Natural Disaster Mitigation Enterprise grant program.

1

Researched wildfire mitigation programs across the Front Range to understand best practices.

2

Brainstormed new program design alongside Kiana and Hannah, with a focus on increasing inclusivity.

3

Rewrote grant application to include more storytelling elements and local GIS data.

NDME GRANT APPLICATION

While we weren't selected for funding this cycle, here's the revised program that could be implemented later on.

- Expanded on last year's concept of a wildfire mitigation rebate program for residents
- Tried to incorporate equity from the outset by introducing a tiered rebate structure
 - Tier 1: low-to-middle income households, preexisting health conditions, etc.
 - Tier 2: all others
- Incorporated relevant local data to understate the importance of action in Louisville

PREPAREDNESS MONTH

GOAL

Increase awareness and action on disaster preparedness by designing innovative content and programming for Louisville staff and residents.

1

Created weekly themes for staff and residents that touched on a variety of disasters.

2

Developed educational content for distribution in newsletter, social media, and website.

3

Designed events and workshops alongside Kiana and other regional partners.

PREPAREDNESS MONTH THEMES

WK 1



**General & Family
Preparedness**

WK 2



**Power Outages &
Extreme Heat**

WK 3



**Alerts &
Cybersecurity**

WK 4



**Pet & Animal
Preparedness**

WK 5



**Disaster
Resilience**

PREPAREDNESS MONTH PARTNERS

Interna

- IT
- Human Resources
- Open Space
- Communications
- Police Department
- Rec & Senior Center
- Economic Vitality
- Sustainability
- Community Development

Externa

- Friends of Coal Creek
- Louisville Fire Protection District
- Hope Animal Response
- Boulder County Office of Disaster Management
- CPR Training
- Pet Mayor & Youth Advisory Committee

PREPAREDNESS MONTH SNIPPETS



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

FOR STAFF!

SEPTEMBER 2025 ACTIVITIES

WEEK 1
PLAN WITH YOUR PEOPLE
 Family-focused disaster preparedness tips to help you stay safe, informed, and ready.

WEEK 4
PAWS & PREPAREDNESS
 Get prepared with your pets in mind!
 CPR Trg @ 9 AM, 9/22.

WEEK 2
THE DISASTERS WE OVERLOOK
 Be ready for power outages and extreme heat with tips on how to stay cool and prepared.

WEEK 5
THE RESILIENCE ROUND-UP
 Build resilience for whatever may come next!
 Active Threat Trg @ 11 AM, 9/30.

WEEK 3
SECURE YOUR ONLINE SPACE
 Protect yourself online!
 Cybersecurity Lunch & Learns, 9/16 & 9/18.

Join the fun all month long!
 Look for emails from us to enter raffles and grab a scratch-off for your chance to win prizes as you participate in activities throughout the month.

All month long, we're sharing simple tips to help you prepare for the unexpected. Whether it's your family, pets, home, neighbors, or workplace, being prepared helps you stay safe during a disaster.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September 2025

WEEK 1
PLAN WITH YOUR PEOPLE
 Family-focused disaster preparedness tips designed to help households stay safe, informed, and ready for any emergency.

WEEK 4
PAWS & PREPAREDNESS
 Helping you plan ahead to ensure the safety and well-being of your furry companions during emergencies.

WEEK 2
THE DISASTERS WE OVERLOOK
 Plan ahead to stay safe when the lights go out.
 Lunchtime Preparedness @ 12 PM, 9/9, Louisville Senior Center.

WEEK 5
THE RESILIENCE ROUND-UP
 Wrap up Preparedness Month with final preparedness tips and community highlights that are helping build a more resilient Louisville.

WEEK 3
BE ALERT AND READY
 Learn how to stay informed before, during, and after disasters.
 Stay tuned for a raffle giveaway!

WEEK 6
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
 Empowering residents to reduce fire risks through safety practices.
 Firewise Landscaping with Friends of Coal Creek @ 6:30 PM, 10/9, Louisville Rec Center.

All month long, we're sharing simple tips to help you prepare for the unexpected. Follow us on socials and subscribe to our emails so you don't miss any of our Disaster Preparedness Month activities!

Want to Learn More About Preparedness?

 LouisvilleCO
  @CityLouisvilleCO

Visit Resilient Louisville:
LouisvilleCO.gov/ResilientLouisville

PREPAREDNESS MONTH SNIPPETS



**MYTHBUSTING
SIRENS**

PURPOSE OF SIRENS:

Emergency sirens are designed to warn people **outdoors** of **immediate danger**. Their core purpose is to grab attention quickly so people can take protective action fast. **They are not meant to replace emergency alerts all together.** It is important to be aware and sign up for multiple alerting methods. [See our Emergency Notification webpage for more information!](#)

MYTH #1

"Sirens are meant to be heard indoors."

TRUTH:

Outdoor warning sirens are designed to alert people outside. If you're indoors, especially asleep or in a noisy environment, you may not hear them. That's why it's important to have other alert systems like BOCOAlerts.

MYTH #3

"Sirens always sound during every warning."

TRUTH:

Activation depends on local first responders and conditions. Not every warning will trigger a siren, so relying on them alone can be risky. That's why it's important to have other alert systems like BOCOAlerts.

MYTH #5

"Anyone can trigger an emergency siren if danger is near."

TRUTH:

Siren activation is a tightly controlled process because Police & Fire Departments follow protocols.

MYTH #2

"Sirens only go off for tornadoes."

TRUTH:

While tornadoes are a common reason for sirens to go off, sirens can also be activated for other life-threatening events like wildfires and flash floods when requested by first responders.

MYTH #4

"Outdoor emergency sirens are never tested."

TRUTH:

Sirens are tested regularly even when everything's working perfectly to ensure they stay reliable. Boulder County Radio Communications personnel are responsible for maintaining and testing all sirens. Sirens in Louisville are audibly tested every year.

- Police and Fire have standard operating guidelines that outline when and how sirens should be activated.
- These protocols are based on factors like confirmed threats, National Weather Service warnings, or reports from trained spotters.
- Decisions are made by authorized personnel.

MY HUMANS HAVE A PLAN FOR ME

BUILD A GO-LIST DOCUMENT SHARE

Prepare a go-list and kit for your pet so if you need to evacuate, you and your pet(s) are ready to go.

Items on your list and in your kit should include (but not limited to):

- MEDICATIONS**
- EMERGENCY CONTACTS**
- PET FIRST AID KIT**
- PICTURES OF PET(S)**
- WATER & FOOD BOWLS**
- COMFORT ITEMS**
- PAPERWORK (VACCINE RECORDS)**
- ANIMAL-SPECIFIC ITEMS (LITTER, CRATE)**
- EXTRA FOOD**
- COLLAR WITH ID TAG & HARNESS/LEASH**

DOCUMENT

- Write instructions on how to evacuate your animal.
- Write habits, behaviors, and tips about your animal
- Take & print pictures of your animal

SHARE

- Share your plan with your neighbors
- Share your plan with your Friends / Family
- Discuss what would happen to your animal with your family

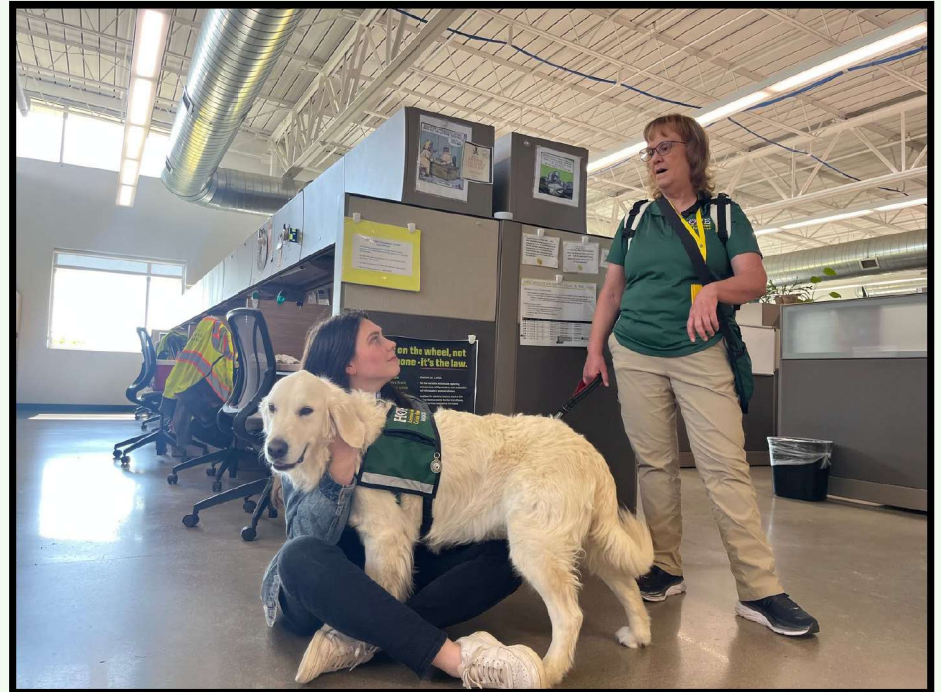
KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

In an emergency, having trusted relationships with your neighbors can make all the difference. Getting to know the people around you and introducing them to your pets, means they can help out if disaster strikes and you're not home.





PREPAREDNESS MONTH SNIPPETS



WATER SAVINGS PROGRAMS

GOAL

Research how to expand Louisville's water conservation offerings in both the residential (51% use) and non-residential sectors (49% use).

1

Spoke with municipalities, utilities, nonprofits, and other organizations about programming ideas.

2

Developed a matrix cataloguing program precedents elsewhere and highlighting key programs.

3

Created program proposal recommendations to present to Sustainability and Public Works.

WATER SAVINGS CONTEXT

Louisville is updating its Water Efficiency Plan and Long-Range Water Plan. Already, these efforts have made clear the need to **conserve more water.**

- Residential water use makes up 51% of total water demand (570 million gallons/year)
- Non-residential water use makes up 49% of water use (550 million gallons/year)
 - 70–80% of future water demand growth expected here
- Combined: 1.1 billion gallons of water used annually
- Drought will increase demand by 20–25%, and climate change will add another 10–15% strain

GOAL:



Achieve 10–15% water savings over next 25 years.

WATER SAVINGS CONTEXT

Louisville is updating its Water Efficiency Plan and Long-Range Water Plan. Already, these efforts have made clear the need to conserve more water.



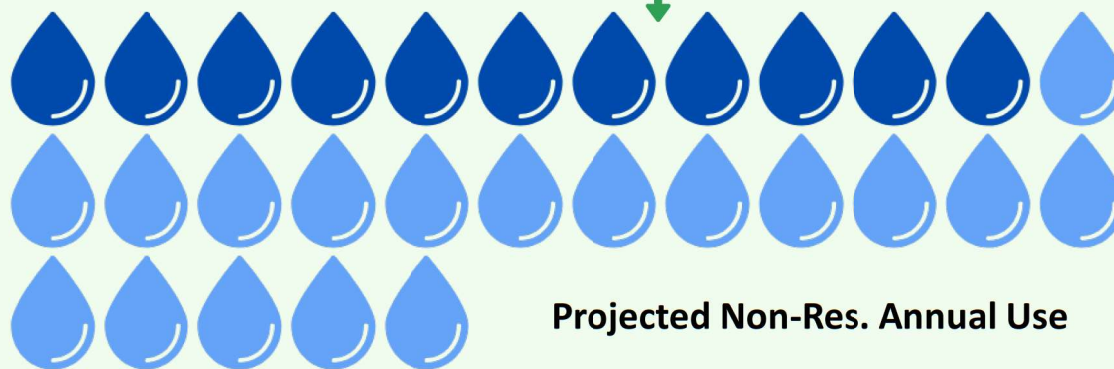
570 mil.

**Current Annual Water
Demand**

+228 mil.

**+ Demand Expected
from Climate Change**

Current Non-Res. Annual Use



Projected Non-Res. Annual Use

1 icon = 50 mil. gallons/year

CURRENT PROGRAMS OFFERED

1

Garden in a Box

Residents save \$25 on a pre-planned, waterwise garden kit.

2

Residential Turf Lawn Replacement

Residents can receive up to \$750 toward replacing their turf with drought-tolerant landscaping.

3

Slow-the-Flow

Residents get a free professional eval. of their irrigation system to improve efficiency.

4

Waterwise Seminars

Residents attend free classes to learn how to landscape with less water.

WATER SAVINGS MATRIX

Rain Barrel Programs

Program Name	Municipal Dept. / Water Utility	Partners	Description	Rebate Amount	Funding Mechanism	# of Participants	Cost of Program Upstart	Administration Time	Intended Outcomes & Metrics	Co-Benefits	Successes	Barriers/Challenges	Extra Notes
Water Efficiency Rebates	Town of Erie	N/A	Rebate for up to two rain barrels, not to exceed 55 gallons each.	Up to \$50 per rain barrel (not to exceed purchase price).	Didn't discuss, but they have \$20,000 to implement.	Didn't discuss.	Unknown.	Didn't discuss with their Water Conservation Specialist.	Increase water efficiency.	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss.	- Measuring impact and success - Marketing to businesses	- Recommends funding the program in-house because it provides a new funding avenue for those who may not have participated or know about other rebates - CCOB is a Denver Water customer, so their program consistent with the Denver Water Rebate Program and uses the same qualifying purchases
Residential Water Rebates	City and County of Broomfield	N/A	Households can get a rebate for up to two rain barrels every five years.	Up to \$50 rebate.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Help residents save money and water.	Cost savings.	Unknown.	Unknown.	- Ineligible situations: new construction or homes less than one year old and apartments or condominiums (contact your management office to obtain your water account number for eligibility) - Rebates are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, as funds are available - Eligibility for rebates is limited to up to the limit of each item every 10 years
Water Efficiency Rebate Program	Town of Superior	N/A	Households can get a rebate for up to two rain barrels.	Up to \$50 per rain barrel (\$100 total) per household, limited to two total per household.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Help residents save money and water.	Cost savings.	Unknown.	Unknown.	- Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis and are available while funding lasts - Approved rebates will be applied as a credit to your water bill within two months
Water Conservation Programs	City of Northglenn	N/A	Households can receive rain barrel rebate, limited at one per address every 5 years.	Up to \$50 rebate.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown, but their website lists Laura Farzim as the point of contact for rebate applications.	Help residents save money and water.	Lower utility bills.	Unknown.	Unknown.	- They partner with Resource Central and other local organizations to offer community member water conservation opportunities
Water Conservation	City of Boulder	Resource Central, CSU Extension Office	Not an actual program they offer? Links to CSU Extension website.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Water Rebate and Conservation Programs	Town of Monument	N/A	Households can get up to two rebates for two rain barrels.	Up to \$50 per rain barrel.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Conserve water and help residents save money.	Cost and water savings.	Unknown.	Unknown.	- Rebates offered on first come, first served basis - Rebate credited to water account - Rain barrel must be installed at the Town of Monument service address
Water Efficiency Rebates	City of Grand Junction	N/A	Up to 2 rain barrels allowed per any residential to 4 plex multifamily.	Up to \$50 per rain barrel.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown, but their website links to a Water Conservation Specialist.	Encourage water conservation and promote other programs alongside rain barrel rebate.	Water savings.	Unknown.	Unknown.	- Not necessarily super related, but they offer residents a free faucet aerator and efficient shower head to help reduce water use.

WATER SAVINGS MATRIX

Turf Conversion

Program Name	Municipal Dept. / Water Utility	Partners	Description	Amount Given	Funding Mechanism	# of Applicants	Cost of Program Upstart	Administration Time	Intended Outcomes & Metrics	Co-Benefits	Successes	Barriers/Challenges	Extra Notes
Turf Replacement Program	Town of Erie												
Broomfield Sustainable Neighborhood Grant	City of Longmont		This rebate is not directly a turf replacement program.										
Highlands Ranch Water Turf Replacement Program	Highlands Ranch Water	N/A	Turf replacement program that allows for both xeriscaping and low-water turf grass.	Up to 2,000 sqft: - \$2.50/sqft for ColoradoScape - \$1.50/sqft for low-water use turf	Water budget tiered rate structure. Money funnelled into turf conversion programming.	1-2 non-residential customers per year	Didn't discuss.	Full-time staff member who runs all of the water conservation programs, including turf removal. Tries to be hands-off after application is turned in.	Water savings is the intended metric, but non-residential projects have usually been too small to measure any tangible difference.	Didn't discuss.	Got a school to convert 3,000 sqft of turf.	- No large scale projects have been completed (5,000 sqft+) - Lots of HOAs, which are notoriously difficult to find a point of contact with - Commercial properties have multiple meters usually, making it difficult to track any metrics	- Most participants have been through word of mouth - Commercial properties typically don't participate unless they have an "advocate" - Considering Lunch&Learn marketing for businesses
Broomfield Large Property Turf Replacement Rebate Program	City and County of Broomfield, Community Development	N/A	Turf replacement program targeting commercial, industrial, and HOA properties.	\$1.20 per sqft	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss.	Full-time staff member: Landscape Architect (Kate Volz), oversees projects from application to completion.	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss.	Most large commercial and HOA properties fall under Broomfield's Ordinance 17-38-230, which requires PUDs to submit an Administrative Modification for property alterations.	Plumbing retrofits and retaining walls might require the property to submit additional permits.	- Factors Broomfield considered in program research process: - Application process and approval time - Eligibility requirements - Average rebate amount offered per square foot - Minimum and maximum square footage of turf conversion required - Project deadlines - Types and percentage of plant material required - Irrigation requirements - Department overseeing the turf project
Collaborative Water-Efficient Landscape Grant Program	Northern Water	N/A	This is a grant program, not a rebate program. They chose a grant because rebates may be considered "taxable income".	Project co-funding is 1:1 matching with the potential to receive a maximum amount of \$25,000 per project.	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss.	Didn't discuss. Their Senior Water Efficiency Specialist, Lyndsey Lucia, communicated with us over email.	Promote water efficiency.	Website encourages 3rd-party certifications or designations from Audubon of the Rockies' Habitat Hero, National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat, Audubon International and Xerces Society.	Didn't discuss.	The discussion over whether the program should be a rebate or a grant seemed to be the biggest barrier to starting up the program.	N/A
Sustainable Neighborhood Solutions Grants	City of Westminster	N/A	This rebate is not directly a turf replacement program.	- Up to \$4,000 in rebates for a comprehensive audit of the HOA's irrigation system, with detailed action items to save water - Turf to Native Transformation Program: minimum project size is 3,000 square feet; receive up to \$10,000 in rebates - Planting Strip Transformation Program: rebates available, amount unknown	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Encourage waterwise flowering plants and native grasses in neighborhoods.	Facilitate neighborhood-scale sustainability and resilience through community empowered projects.	Unknown.	Unknown.	N/A
	Eagle River Water &			- Turf removal rebates: \$1-\$2 per sqft, with a minimum of 100 sqft and a maximum of 2,500		Dozens of evaluations		- Originally took up 50% of the team's time when the program was first started (sounded like a	Promote a more holistic vision of		- Converted 6,000 sqft. for Eagle County municipal building - Spending longer than desired on the	- Recommend a voluntary over regulatory approach because a regulatory approach may delay people from taking action unless	

RAIN BARREL REBATE SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create
Multiple
Rebates**

RAIN BARREL REBATE SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create
Multiple
Rebates**

2

**Offer Rain
Barrel
Rebate**

RAIN BARREL REBATE SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create
Multiple
Rebates**

2

**Offer Rain
Barrel
Rebate**

3

**Choose an
Installer
Partner**

RAIN BARREL REBATE SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create
Multiple
Rebates**

2

**Offer Rain
Barrel
Rebate**

3

**Choose an
Installer
Partner**

4

**Partner with
KICP on
Rebate**

COMMERCIAL TURF CONVERSION SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create Turf
Conversion
Rebate**

COMMERCIAL TURF CONVERSION SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create Turf
Conversion
Rebate**

2

**Offer
Competitive
Mini-Grants**

COMMERCIAL TURF CONVERSION SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create Turf
Conversion
Rebate**

2

**Offer
Competitive
Mini-Grants**

3

**Pursue
Irrigation
Efficiency**

COMMERCIAL TURF CONVERSION SCENARIOS FORWARD

1

**Create Turf
Conversion
Rebate**

2

**Offer
Competitive
Mini-Grants**

3

**Pursue
Irrigation
Efficiency**

4

**Share
Northern
Water's WEL**

Key Takeaways

THANK YOU!

Erin Spencer

Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2025
Call to Order: 6:00 PM

I. Call to Order and Secretary

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.
- Kristen served as secretary.

II. Roll Call

Present: Tiffany, Kristen, Kevin, Nisa, Diana, Todd
Virtual: Allison, Aubrey

III. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve agenda: Todd.
- Second: Kevin.
- Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes: Kevin.
- Second: Tiffany.
- Motion passed unanimously.

V. Public Comments (Items Not on Agenda)

- No public members present.
- No public comments.

VI. Administrative Updates

- Comprehensive Plan: Public engagement events are still to be scheduled. Draft has been shared with City Council; consultants are rewriting sections. Staff and public comments are expected to be incorporated.

VII. Staff Updates (10 Minutes)

- Community Events:
 - Halloween Costume Exchange (see Library section of city website).
 - In tandem w/Haunted House hosted by Teen Council on October 3.
- Staff Activities:
 - Logan presenting at Rocky Mountain ISA conference on the intersection of urban forestry and sustainability.
 - Hannah presenting at Mountain Towns 2030 w/Public Works team on the Internal Decarbonization Plan.
- Funding and Grants:
 - DRCOG funding retooling application.

- Grant application process restructured as of October 18.
- Six proposals received under electrification/decarbonization scope for Internal Decarbonization Plan.
- Budget:
 - Sustainability neighborhoods included.
 - No dedicated staff position funded to manage the program.
- Discussion:
 - Kevin raised question regarding council “fallacies.” Tiffany noted need for clarification documents. Todd emphasized context-dependent accuracy. Discussed under energy code discussion direction.

VIII. Discussion & Direction Item

LSAB – City Council Energy Code Memo (60 minutes)

- Context:
 - Staff tasked with drafting a resolution to adopt the 2024 IECC base code. Adoption expected at second reading.
 - Memo reviewed by LSAB in advance; members discussed implications.
- Board Discussion:
 - Kevin: MLECC and DRCOG amendments meet 2024 standards. Questioned whether delaying adoption makes Louisville an outlier. Stressed importance of safety if codes are updated.
 - Hannah: Noted DRCOG compliance with MLECC. Clarified that only small additions could be made to the memo before Council’s first reading.
 - Tiffany: Asked what peer communities are doing. Superior is not updating codes; Lafayette adopted net-zero provisions, similar to Boulder.
 - Kevin: Observed that Golden is the only municipality that has adopted DRCOG amendments; many municipalities reluctant to update codes. Suggested businesses prefer standardization.
 - Hannah: Emphasized that retrofitting buildings would create the largest greenhouse gas reductions.
 - Nisa: Suggested involving electricians to speak in favor of the Cohort Code Package.
 - Tiffany: Recommended LSAB build stronger connections with other boards by reviewing their packets or collaborating.
 - Hannah: Encouraged LSAB to broaden scope and issue memos on a wider range of community issues.
- Motions:
 - Motion for Allison to represent LSAB at Council readings on October 7 and November 3: moved by Tiffany, seconded by Kevin. Motion approved.
 - Motion to approve the Energy Code Memo: moved by Kevin, seconded by Kristen. Motion approved.
- Ongoing Projects Identified for LSAB:
 - Energy Code
 - Development Code
 - Sustainability Work Plan

IX. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Kristen.
- Second: Todd.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Memorandum

To: Louisville City Council Members
From: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board
Date: November 19, 2025
Re: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board Legislative Agenda for 2026

Dear Louisville City Council Members,

As the City Council begins to set legislative priorities for 2026, the Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board respectfully submits this legislative agenda for your consideration. Our recommendations are grounded in the City's Sustainability Action Plan and aim to support the Council adopted Climate Action Goals, reflecting the shared commitment to a sustainable, resilient, and equitable future for our community.

We believe that sustainability and resiliency should remain a central lens through which all major, long-term City decisions are evaluated. From infrastructure investments to housing, energy, and economic development, policies should prioritize outcomes that build resilience, reduce emissions, and support community well-being—especially for those most affected by climate change.

Louisville has already demonstrated strong leadership in this work through collaboration with regional partners such as the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), sharing knowledge and aligning strategies to advance sustainability goals. The City's efforts to integrate sustainability into both the legislative agenda, Comprehensive Plan, and City Council Work Plan further underscore its dedication to environmental stewardship. Building on this momentum, the Board urges City Council to continue placing sustainability and resiliency at the center of decision-making, ensuring that every action taken today contributes to a thriving and climate-resilient future.

Vision for 2026 and Beyond

Louisville continues to face the complex challenges of climate change, resource management, and equitable growth. To meet these challenges, we urge the City to:

- Continue prioritizing sustainability and resiliency as core criteria in all significant, long-term policy and financial decisions.
- Advance the City's transition to renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through data-driven decision-making that focuses on the highest-impact strategies.
- Support communities disproportionately impacted by climate change through targeted adaptation strategies, financial incentives, and inclusive engagement.

These priorities reflect our belief that sustainable practices are not only environmentally necessary but also economically and socially beneficial.

Recommended Legislative Tasks for 2026

1. Integrate a Sustainability and Resilience Evaluation Framework into Major City Decisions

Formalize a decision-making framework requiring that all major capital projects, infrastructure investments, and policy initiatives include an evaluation of sustainability, resilience, and climate equity impacts. Embedding this framework into City processes ensures that sustainability and resilience considerations are consistently applied across all departments, fostering accountability and long-term planning.

2. Advance Renewable Energy Adoption and Data-Driven Emission Reduction

Accelerate Louisville's transition to renewable energy and ensure that greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies are guided by accurate, data-driven analysis to achieve the greatest possible impact. By grounding decisions in emissions data and cost-benefit evaluation, the City can effectively progress toward its goals of reducing emissions by 60% by 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. This includes continued investment in tools that enable staff to efficiently collect, analyze, and interpret emissions data, empowering them to make informed, strategic decisions about where to target reductions and how to expand renewable energy projects and initiatives most effectively.

3. Strengthen Community Resilience and Climate Equity

Enhance Louisville's climate adaptation and disaster recovery planning to better support residents and neighborhoods most vulnerable to environmental change. Recognizing that climate impacts disproportionately affect low-income households, seniors, renters, and those lacking resilient housing or transportation, the City should prioritize equitable access to sustainability investments. Key actions include expanding energy-efficiency and home resilience programs for income-qualified residents, partnering with community organizations to improve heat mitigation, air quality, and emergency preparedness, and pursuing state and federal funding for local resilience projects that create green jobs and safeguard public health.

The Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board remains committed to supporting the City Council in advancing a resilient, equitable, and climate-conscious future. By continuing to integrate sustainability and resilience into every major City decision, we can safeguard our community's long-term well-being, strengthen economic stability, and position Louisville as a regional leader in sustainability innovation.

We thank the Council for its continued partnership and look forward to collaborating on the 2026 legislative agenda to ensure that sustainability remains at the heart of Louisville's vision for the future.

Sincerely,

The Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

RAIN BARREL REBATE

Water Use in Louisville

Louisville is currently updating its Water Efficiency Plan and Long-Range Water Plan. These planning efforts have already made clear that the City must use its existing water supplies more efficiently. Right now, residential water use makes up 51% of Louisville's total water demand, equating to approximately 570 million gallons per year. About half of these gallons go towards landscaping irrigation. Combined with the non-residential sector, Louisville customers use roughly 1.1 billion gallons of treated drinking water annually for their indoor and outdoor needs.

Future Water Demand

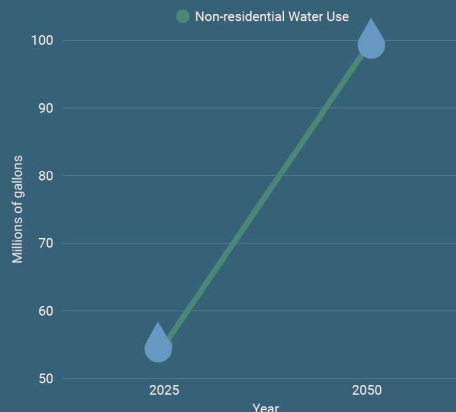
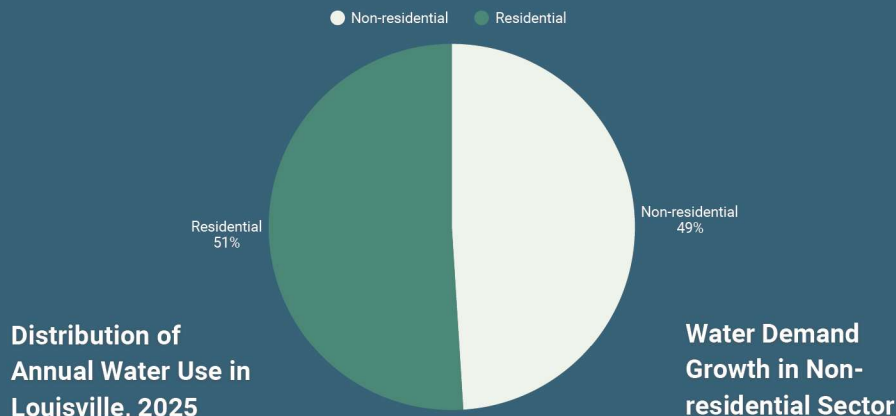
The progression of climate change is expected to further strain the City's water supply. Drought conditions alone are projected to increase local water demand by 20–25%, and climate change is anticipated to add another 10–15% increase over the next decade. To plan for these pressures and maintain a reliable supply, Louisville's Water Treatment Division has set a goal of achieving 10–15% water savings (between 600 to 1,000 acre-feet) over the next 25 years. Meeting this target will require the City and all Louisville residents to conserve more water.

Current Programs Offered

While the City has taken meaningful steps to support residential water conservation through existing programs (listed on next page), participation has declined in recent years. This suggests a need to expand our current range of available incentives and educational resources to help residents use water more efficiently. Expanding our program offerings will support long-term water savings, strengthen drought and wildfire resilience, lower residents' utility bills, and encourage more climate-resilient landscapes across the City.



Louisville's Water Use by the Numbers



RAIN BARREL REBATE

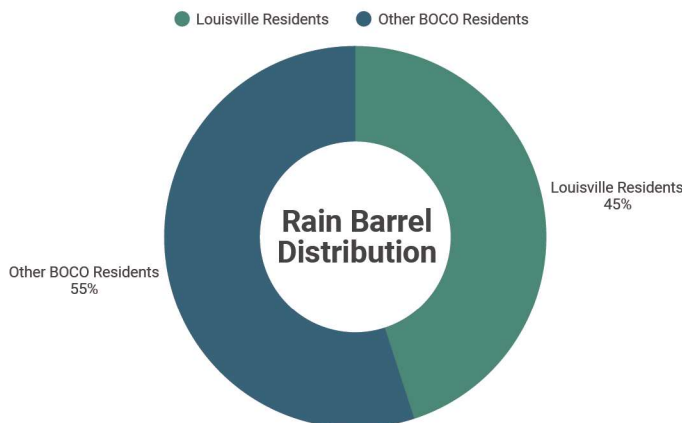
Current Programs Offered

Garden-in-a-Box	Turf Lawn Replacement	Slow-the-Flow	Water-wise Seminars
Residents can save \$25 on a pre-planned, waterwise garden kit designed to last in Colorado's climate.	Residents can receive up to \$750 toward replacing their turf with drought-tolerant landscaping.	Residents can get a free professional evaluation of their irrigation system to identify leaks and improve efficiency.	Residents can attend free virtual classes to learn how to landscape with less water and have a more positive impact.

Rain Barrel Interest

Louisville has a longstanding relationship with the Keep It Clean Partnership (KICP). The mission of KICP is to “protect, promote, and improve watershed health in the Boulder St. Vrain basin through sharing resources, building community awareness, and collecting and using data”. One of the many programs KICP offers to Boulder County partner cities is the free Rain Barrel Workshop Series, which teaches residents how to choose, install, and maintain a rain barrel.

In the most recent workshop KICP held at Louisville's Recreation and Senior Center in 2024, Louisville residents comprised 24% of the total 390 sign-ups. Half of the rain barrels (49 out of 109) distributed at the workshop were given to Louisville residents, with 29 residents having confirmed installation already. These results demonstrate a strong interest from Louisville residents in rain barrel programming.



Program Proposal

The City does not currently have its own rain barrel programming nor much in the way of water conversation programs outside of what Resource Central offers. The Sustainability Division therefore proposes Louisville create a Rain Barrel Rebate Program for residential water customers.

This rebate would help encourage long-term behavior change around daily water use. Rain barrels also serve as an accessible entry point for residents to explore other climate resilient, waterwise landscaping practices. In addition to meeting residents' interest in rainwater harvesting, the program would support the City's goal of reducing water use in the coming years.

RAIN BARREL REBATE

Regional Precedents

The Town of Erie, City and County of Broomfield, and Town of Superior have implemented similar rain barrel rebate programs. Common elements of these programs include:

Rebate Amount	Barrel Requirements	Household Limits	Program Visibility
\$50 per barrel.	Must not exceed 55 gallons; no other specifications	Up to two rebated rain barrels per household.	Each municipality markets rain barrel rebates within a broader suite of water conservation incentives.

Town of Erie

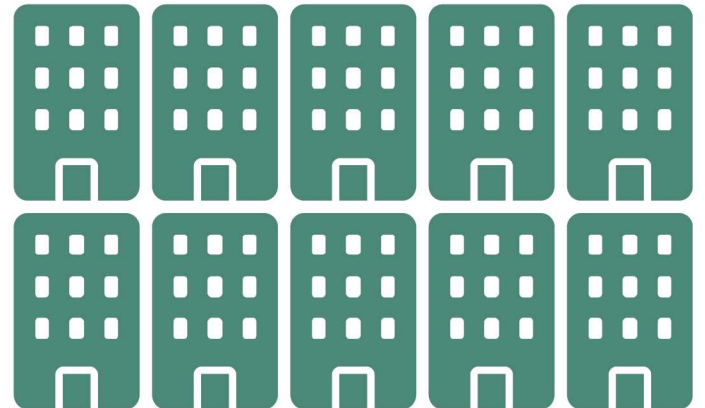
Erie offers rebates for up to two rain barrels per household that must hold less than 55 gallons each. Residents can receive up to \$50 per barrel, not to exceed the purchase price. The program was launched with \$20,000 in funding and is managed in-house, allowing the Town to reach new participants who may not be aware of other rebate opportunities. While the program has been well-received, Erie notes challenges in tracking and quantifying the program's overall impact and success for water savings.

Town of Superior

Superior offers rebates of up to \$50 per rain barrel, with a household limit of two barrels (a total maximum of \$100). Participants may apply for rebates on each eligible item only once every ten years. This policy balances the goal of encouraging participation while ensuring long-term program sustainability and equitable access among residents. Overall, Superior's residential rebate program appears to take a longer-term approach than those in Broomfield and Erie.

City & County of Broomfield

Broomfield provides rebates of up to \$50 per rain barrel, with a limit of two barrels per household every five years. Eligibility is restricted to established homes. New construction, homes less than one year old, and multi-family units, such as apartments or condominiums, are excluded from the rebate. This approach directs rebates toward properties where outdoor water use is typically higher, maximizing the potential for near-term water savings.



RAIN BARREL REBATE

Scenarios Forward

1 Create Multiple Residential Water Conservation Rebates

Feasibility: Medium

Like the Town of Erie, the City and County of Broomfield, and the Town of Superior, Louisville could expand its rebate offerings to include a residential rain barrel rebate alongside a broader suite of residential water conservation incentives. Because a range of rebate options would be available, this model would need to be relatively hands-off in terms of administration. In comparable municipalities, rebate programs are streamlined through simple checklists, allowing residents to self-certify their eligibility and purchases.

This scenario has medium feasibility if the City does not require residents to use a specific contractor and instead issues rebates after residents submit proof of purchase. Since rain barrels are already popular among Louisville residents, the City could expand its rebate offerings to also include additional residential water conservation measures, such as rotary nozzles, high-efficiency toilets, drip irrigation components, and smart irrigation controllers. Together with rain barrels, these measures would support both indoor and outdoor water efficiency and help advance the City's long-term water savings goals.

2 Offer Rain Barrel Rebate as Standalone Program

Feasibility: High

If Louisville wishes to focus specifically on rain barrel rebates and build on the strong engagement seen at KICP workshops, the City could establish a standalone residential rain barrel rebate program that is separate from other water conservation incentives. Since the pool of eligible participants for a rain barrel rebate is more limited, this program could function as a shorter-term initiative and serve as a strategic starting point for the City to eventually expand into a broader suite of residential water conservation offerings in the future, as highlighted in Scenario 1.

Administration of the program could remain relatively hands-off if the City issues rebates to residents after they submit a proof of purchase, similar to the models used by Erie, Broomfield, and Superior. However, the City could add more hands-on elements if desired. For example, the Sustainability Division could coordinate a bulk purchase and rain barrel pick-up event or even require residents to attend a rain barrel workshop as part of the rebate process. These additions would help ensure participants understand proper installation and maintenance, while also strengthening behavior change and long-term adoption.



RAIN BARREL REBATE

Scenarios Forward

3 Offer Rain Barrel Rebate through Designated Installer

Feasibility: Low

Louisville could partner with a single contractor to provide both rain barrels and installation services directly at residents' homes. This approach would help ensure consistent installation quality across the City and could appeal to residents who prefer professional support rather than a DIY setup. However, overall feasibility is considered low because it would place significant administrative and financial demands on the Sustainability Division, including contract management, vendor coordination, and potentially oversight of installation quality.

Under this model, the City would be responsible for covering both the cost of the rain barrel and the installation, which would raise the rebate amount above the \$55 offered by other Front Range municipalities. The City could solicit informal quotes from vendors or pursue a sole-source agreement with contractors such as Longmont Gutters or Property Pros Inc., both of which operate in Boulder County and provide installation, repair, and gutter integration services. While selecting a single installer could streamline coordination and ensure uniform quality, it would also require increased staff oversight, higher budget allocation, and more complex administration, making this option less practical than DIY-oriented rebate program outlined in Scenario 2.

4 Partner with Keep It Clean Partnership (KICP) for Rebate

Feasibility: Low

Louisville could partner with the Keep It Clean Partnership (KICP) through an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) or similar contract to coordinate the rain barrel rebate program. KICP may handle the purchase, distribution, and educational components of the rebate, including workshops that ensure residents understand proper installation and maintenance. The City could request a workshop specifically for Louisville residents and rely on KICP to manage registration, pick-up, and outreach. Currently, KICP has approximately 100 rain barrels available annually to distribute among its partner communities, which would limit the program scale for Louisville.

Louisville could purchase a portion of these barrels each year (likely 50 barrels or less) and let KICP manage the entire process or coordinate a joint rebate and distribution event. While this approach would reduce staff workload, feasibility is low due to the limited control the Sustainability Division would have over the program. The Division would heavily rely on KICP's resources and schedule, making this partnership less predictable and potentially less effective than a City-led rain barrel rebate program.



TURF CONVERSION

Water Use in Louisville

Louisville is currently updating its Water Efficiency Plan and Long-Range Water Plan. These planning efforts have already made clear that the City must use its existing water supplies more efficiently. Currently, non-residential water use accounts for approximately 49% of total annual water use, totaling about 550 million gallons in 2024. Projections estimate that 70–80% of future growth in water demand is expected to occur within this sector. Residential water use makes up the remaining 51% of Louisville's total water demand. Combined, Louisville customers use roughly 1.1 billion gallons of treated drinking water annually for their indoor and outdoor needs.

Future Water Demand

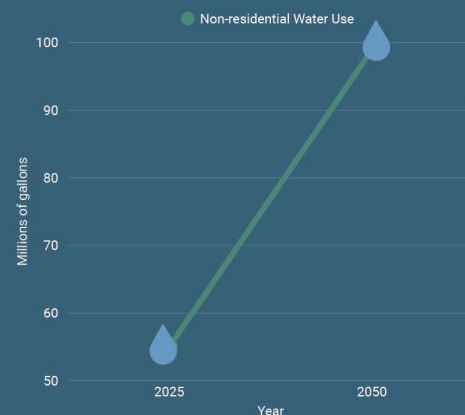
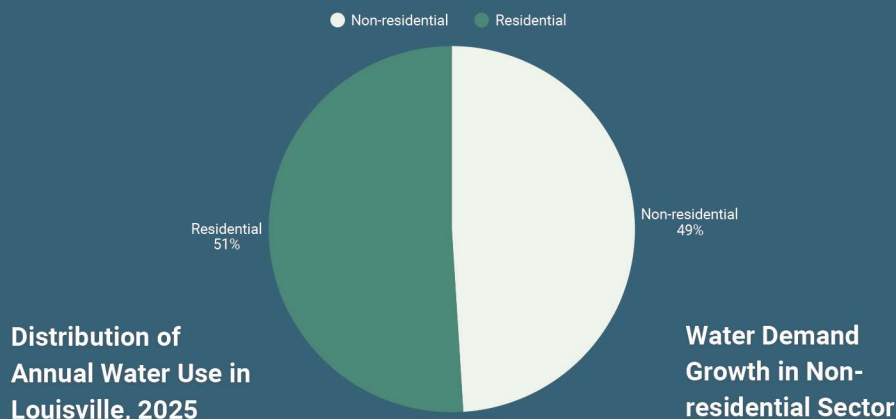
The progression of climate change is expected to further strain the City's water supply. Drought conditions alone are projected to increase local water demand by 20–25%, and climate change is anticipated to add another 10–15% increase over the next decade. To plan for these pressures and maintain a reliable supply, Louisville's Water Treatment Division has set a goal of achieving 10–15% water savings (between 600 to 1,000 acre-feet) over the next 25 years. Meeting this target will require the City and all Louisville residents to conserve more water.

Current Programs Offered

While the City has taken meaningful steps to support residential water conservation through existing programs (listed below), the City does not currently offer any non-residential water conservation programs. This suggests a need to expand our current range of available incentives and educational resources to help businesses and HOAs use water more efficiently. Expanding our program offerings will support long-term water savings, strengthen drought and wildfire resilience, lower properties' utility bills, and encourage more climate-resilient landscapes across the City.



Louisville's Water Use by the Numbers



TURF CONVERSION

Current Programs Offered (Residents Only)

Garden-in-a-Box	Turf Lawn Replacement	Slow-the-Flow	Water-wise Seminars
Residents can save \$25 on a pre-planned, waterwise garden kit designed to last in Colorado's climate.	Residents can receive up to \$750 toward replacing their turf with drought-tolerant landscaping.	Residents can get a free professional evaluation of their irrigation system to identify leaks and improve efficiency.	Residents can attend free virtual classes to learn how to landscape with less water and have a more positive impact.

Non-residential Landscapes

Non-residential landscapes often include large areas of maintained turf that require frequent irrigation, which contributes to high outdoor water use. Reducing water use within this sector represents one of the most impactful opportunities for the City to meet its long-term water efficiency goals. The Colorado Tech Center alone covers more than 400 acres and is only expected to grow, making it an especially strategic location for water savings.



Program Proposal

To address this need, the Sustainability Division therefore proposes that Louisville establish a Non-Residential Turf Conversion Program to support commercial and HOA customers in replacing their high-water-use turf with low-water, climate-resilient, and pollinator-friendly plantings. This rebate would complement the energy and waste reduction rebates already available to Louisville businesses. It would also allow the City to offer a more well-rounded set of sustainability incentives outside of decarbonization and circularity.

By including water conservation as part of the non-residential sustainability toolkit, Louisville can help businesses reduce their operating costs and create more climate-resilient landscapes. The rebate program would also help strengthen relationships between the Sustainability Division and non-residential community partners while supporting the City's broader goal of reducing overall water use in the coming years.

TURF CONVERSION

Regional Precedents

Non-residential turf conversion rebate programs are still relatively new in the sustainability space. Because they are administered by a variety of entities, such as municipal governments, water utilities, and resource conservation districts, program structure and requirements vary. Still, there are several common elements that have emerged, including:

Rebate Range	Rebate Amount Limits	Funding Sources	Program Insights
\$1.50-\$2.50 per square foot.	Minimum conversion size of 3,000 square feet, with a maximum rebate set as a dollar-based cap.	Many programs rely on CWCB grants, internal budgets, or tiered water rates or water budgets for funding.	Program administrators emphasized the need to identify simple irrigation improvements for the customer first that can be implemented quickly and cost-effectively before the customer proceeds with turf conversion.

Fort Collins Utilities

Fort Collins initially launched a residential turf conversion program and later adapted the model to non-residential properties. The utility offers \$1.50 per square foot of turf replaced, up to \$15,000 per project, with an additional upfront bonus of \$0.30 per square foot (up to \$3,000) to encourage early participation. The program began five years ago with funding support from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) and the Bureau of Reclamation. The utility has seen stronger uptake from HOAs than commercial businesses largely because businesses do not view turf conversion as a high-priority expense.

capacity. While the 2,000-square-foot project limit may lend itself primarily to demonstration gardens or smaller pilot projects, it also may provide a foundation that could be expanded over time to achieve greater, measurable water savings.

Castle Rock Water

Castle Rock offers a rebate of \$3.25 per square foot for turf converted to ColoradoScape , with eligible projects ranging from a minimum of 1,500 square feet up to a maximum of 15,000 square feet. This is the highest rebate amount among the programs reviewed. The rebate is funded through a tiered water budget rate structure. The high rebate incentive has contributed to strong participation, and several properties have converted areas larger than the 15,000-square-foot rebate cap. Participants also receive a permanent adjustment to their water budget after conversion, which further supports long-term water savings.

City of Cortez

Like Louisville, Cortez owns and operates its own water utility within Public Works. The City offers a commercial turf conversion rebate of up to \$4,000 for projects converting up to 2,000 square feet of irrigated turf. The program is supported by funding from the CWCB and is administered by Public Works. The City's smaller-scale approach to turf conversion likely reflects the community's size and available staff

TURF CONVERSION

Scenarios Forward

1 Create a Non-residential Turf Conversion Rebate

Feasibility: Medium

For this scenario, Louisville would establish a rebate program to encourage the replacement of irrigated turf grass with low-water, native, or pollinator-supportive grasses and plants. Rebates would be structured to incentivize medium-to-large conversions, with minimum project sizes to ensure meaningful water savings and maximum limits to manage budget impacts. Program funding could be supported through Louisville's tiered water rate structure, with the potential to leverage additional support through a Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Grant.

Rebate amounts would align with common practices across Colorado municipalities and water utilities, which typically offer \$1.50–\$2.50 per square foot of turf removed and replaced with approved low-water vegetation. To promote larger and early-stage projects, Louisville could offer an additional \$0.25–\$0.50 per square foot incentive for early adopters or projects exceeding 5,000 square feet of turf converted. As with most existing programs, Louisville could require projects to meet a minimum size of 1,000–3,000 square feet, with a maximum rebate of \$10,000–\$15,000 per project.

2 Offer Grants for Water-wise Climate Resilience Projects

Feasibility: Medium

In this scenario, Louisville would offer mini-grants to non-residential customers for landscape projects that reduce outdoor water use, support pollinator habitat, and provide a visible community or educational benefit. Grants could range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per project and would be awarded as a flat amount rather than calculated by square footage. This structure gives applicants flexibility to design projects that fit their site needs and priorities. The City's role would be to promote the program, review applications for eligibility, and award grants once or twice per year based on available funding and interest.

This model may reduce staff workload by avoiding per-square-foot calculations, site inspections, and reimbursement processing. The tradeoff is that water savings would be less precise to measure, and smaller-scale projects may produce more incremental progress toward overall water reduction goals. However, this scenario provides a practical, approachable, and term-limited entry point that can help Louisville build engagement with commercial and HOA partners and create momentum ahead of a more structured turf conversion rebate program.



TURF CONVERSION

Scenarios Forward

3 Create Non-residential Irrigation Efficiency Rebates

Feasibility: Medium

In this scenario, Louisville would adopt an approach similar to the Town of Erie and offer multiple irrigation efficiency rebates for both residential and non-residential customers, with higher rebate amounts for non-residential properties. This scenario aligns with key insights from other programs, which emphasized the importance of non-residential customers upgrading or repairing irrigation systems before undertaking turf conversion projects. Eligible rebate measures could include smart irrigation controllers, high-efficiency toilets, commercial toilets and urinals, high-efficiency nozzles, and drip irrigation lines.

Feasibility is considered medium because the program would require some administrative oversight, though this could be simplified by using a single application for all rebates. While this scenario does not directly convert turf, it provides an early opportunity to advance water conservation, build program momentum, and prepare properties for future turf conversion projects. Participation in irrigation efficiency upgrades could also reduce future administrative needs if properties that participated previously return to pursue turf conversion.

4 Publicize Northern Water's Grant Program

Feasibility: High

Louisville could promote Northern Water's Collaborative Water-Efficient Landscape (WEL) Grant Program to non-residential customers rather than running its own turf conversion program. The WEL Grant funds projects that replace irrigated turf with water-efficient landscapes and is available to entities within Northern Water's service area, which includes Louisville. Interested customers complete a site consultation with a Northern Water representative before submitting a grant application. Louisville's role would be to raise awareness through the City's existing channels.

This scenario requires the least administrative effort out of all the program options, since Northern Water would be in charge of funding, project consultations and site visits, and program oversight. The tradeoff is that Louisville would have limited control over project selection and could really only support participation through community outreach and engagement. Still, this scenario could help advance large-scale landscape conversions, build momentum in the non-residential space, and generate interest until Louisville secures additional funding to launch its own non-residential turf conversion program.

