Facilities Sustainability Plan 2021-2030
Spring 2022 Progress Update

Topics and Facilitators

- Facilities Management—Erica Spiegel
- Sustainability—Elizabeth Palchak
- Landscape—Lani Ravin
- Transportation—Abby Bleything
- Buildings—TBD
- Energy—Mike Pelletier
- Waste—Corey Berman
A. Cultivate a holistic Facilities Management (FM) organization.
   • Integration of PPD, PDC, and Custodial department websites into one shared FM website is in development.
   • Held first in-person Shop Talk Coffee Hour for all FM unit personnel.
B. Create a short- and long-term Facilities Improvement Plan.
C. Recruit and retain high quality FM staff.
   • Finance & Administration HR staff are working on a matrix of competitive compensation factors.
   • Human Resource Services reduced minimum recruitment time from 6 to 3 weeks.
   • Expanded duties of existing HR Coordinator to support all FM units.
   • Changing current duties of an existing employee to support orientation and onboarding.
D. Provide opportunities for career growth and offer professional development.
   • PPD & Custodial sharing student videographer intern for creating staff recruitment and training videos.
   • PPD hired two summer engineering interns to assist engineering team.
E. Invest in Integrated Workplace Management System (IWMS) for a new level of information connectivity.
   • IWMS (Planon) implementation is underway and on schedule.
F. Create and enhance funding mechanisms for major FM initiatives.
Sustainability

A. Align facilities-related goals with campus-wide sustainability and climate action goals, and vice versa.
   - Campus Land Use Plan (CLUP) (formerly called the Campus Master Plan) will include this Facilities Sustainability Plan.
   - UVM Comprehensive Sustainability Plan is underway with campus-wide stakeholders, completion expected in fall 2022.
   - Office of Sustainability (OS) awarded grant from the UVM Office of Engagement to support interns and the Sustainable Solutions Lab (SSL)

B. Measure and report regularly on campus-wide sustainability and climate action progress.
   - OS began data collection process for AASHE STARS reporting, due in January 2023.
   - Finalizing contract for FY21 and FY22 for GHG inventories with Gordian/Sightlines.

C. Engage Facilities Management staff in campus-wide sustainability efforts.
   - Sustainable Campus Fund awarded proposals about fleet EVs, salt mitigation and electric grounds equipment with funding in spring 2022.
   - University Engineer led multiple class tours of the Central Heating and Cooling Plant and an open house tour during Earth Week (~ 100 attendees total).

D. Consider costs and value of ownership over the lifetime of structures, assets, and equipment.
A. Prioritize walking, biking, ADA accessibility and safety in land use planning.
   • Campus Land Use Plan (CLUP) will have three subcommittees: include an equivalent of the former Landscape Advisory Subcommittee with new guidelines.
   • CLUP supports accessible outdoor movement with specific language regarding safety, accessibility and diversity.
   • Bike rack shelters near Davis Center and Harris Millis are in permitting.

B. Improve efficiency and flexibility of campus land use and improve quality of outdoor experience.

C. Employ sustainable landscape management practices.
   • Grounds crew replaced a riding mower with an electric one.
   • Grounds will receive SCF funding for additional electric lawn equipment.

D. Continue compliance with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.
   • Construction of Constructed Gravel Wetland underway, Potash Brook.
   • UVM Salt Reduction Task Force continues collaboration, and featured in a local news story.
   • Salt Reduction webpage and video presentation completed.
   • Environmental Impact Monitoring and Mitigation Prototyping proposal receiving SCF funding.
Transportation

A. Enhance convenient, accessible, affordable, low-carbon transportation options.
   • Worked with long-distance bus providers to test two new lines over spring break to connect UVM students to home. One new line will be offered in the fall. Two new providers (Amtrak, FlixBus) planning to launch service this summer. Held three bike safety workshops since October, one on winter bike riding.
   • Covered bike racks near Davis Center and Harris Millis are in permitting. Additional covered bike rack on Trinity Campus was awarded SCF funding.

B. Reduce single occupancy vehicles; increase use of alternatives and shared modes.
   • Daily parking passes are now available online and are easy to use.
   • Actively seeking funding to get an additional CarShare vehicle on campus.
   • ResLife with support from OS hired consultant to redesign residential hall bike rooms.

C. Ensure that fleet vehicles are rightsized, shared and alternatively fueled.
   • Initiated one EV purchase for Emergency Services and two hybrids for Police Services.
   • Working on EV Charging Station Master Plan.
   • SCF approved $10,900 incentive bank to replace 5 old vehicles with 5 new EVs.
   • Installing four L2 fleet charging ports (two each at Bioresearch Complex and Marsh Hall) and six public L2 charging ports (two each at HSRF, the Visitors Center, and Colchester Research Facility).
   • Completed TPS/TRC fleet share research on viability of fleet pooling of UVM vehicles. Next steps include integrating fleet management module into IWMS/Planon.
Buildings

A. **Optimize space utilization and reduce building footprint.**
   - Implementing a telework data system that will give data to work on space utilization, parking, and emissions,
   - Departments are reevaluating space and combining office space to eliminate multiple offices for individuals.
   - Telework is being extended and will be reevaluated on annual basis.

B. **Develop comprehensive asset strategy for capital renewal and deferred maintenance.**
   - Currently chiller #4 installation, HSRF chiller replacement valve work.
   - New power service for HSRF Chiller.
   - Waterman Boiler replacement with more efficient boiler.

C. **Integrate sustainability into project planning, project management and delivery.**
   - Achieved LEED Gold certification for [Recital Hall Addition](#) and LEED Silver for CCRH and STEM.

D. **Adopt sustainable, proactive, and preventive practices for maintenance and operations.**
   - IWMS/PlanOn implementation is underway.
Energy

A. Document existing conditions and compile studies, information.

B. Leverage internal and external resources to invest in energy upgrades and renewables.
   • Installed chiller #4 in spring 2022 (relates to "Buildings").

C. Develop a balanced Energy Plan to create efficiency and a bridge to renewables.
   • Evaluating ground source heat pumps and additional solar.

D. Implement a long-range Utility Plan.
   • University Engineer is working on long range planning for both central campus and Trinity campus.

E. Explore options for carbon-neutral electricity; expand solar generation on campus.
   • Purchased Green-e Certified Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) for FY21.
   • UVM is now registered with the NEPOOL-GIS. Next step is registering each renewable energy project.
   • Reaching out to the State to increase UVM's annual kW limit for solar.

F. Improve communication and integration of information.
   • Evaluating various energy sources on Trinity Campus (possibly hybrid geothermal - air source heat pumps, traditional, condensing boilers, etc.).
Waste

A. Reduce the overall volume of waste generated on campus.
   • Worked with Purchasing to insert language in the UVM RFP for audiovisual equipment to emphasize renting or leasing whenever applicable to support product stewardship.

B. Support innovative redistribution and repair programs.
   • Supported Eco-Reps’ clothing swaps in residence halls.

C. Strengthen recycling and organics diversion.
   • Student conducted focus group and survey on recycling, trash and compost signage needs.
   • Beta testing an E-cargo bicycle for residence hall organics collection for full program launch in fall ’22.
   • Recycling & Zero Waste Manager working with Purchasing on next issuance of waste hauling RFP, due in 2023.

D. Rethink campus processes and create a zero-waste culture.
   • Supported Spring 2022 student Earth Week activities.
   • Received SCF funding for video shorts for Zero Waste and potentially a UVM sustainability YouTube channel.