

Thank you for sharing your valuable insight during our Climate Action Plan (CAP) open comment period and other engagement opportunities. Your input is essential in shaping the future of CU Boulder's sustainability initiatives.

We are excited to share how your feedback is guiding our plans, and we aim to be transparent about how we incorporated your suggestions. Below is a list of the 10 most common themes from the more than 600 comments we received, along with whether and how we addressed them in the final version of the CAP. Page numbers for the specific portions of the CAP that have changed in response to public comments will be added soon to this document.

Please note that we intend for the CAP to be a living document that will be adaptable as we begin to implement plans and technology evolves. Initial priorities for year one, as well as a work plan will be published on the CAP web page in the coming weeks. Those themes that were identified as priority activities for year one by the Steering Committee based on public feedback have an asterisk next to them below.

1. Accelerate the timeline for reduction to zero emissions

- Language has been added to note that while the campus's official target for zero emissions is no later than 2050, options to accelerate the timeline will be explored whenever possible.
- One role of the new Campus Sustainability Executive Council is to look for opportunities and resources to accelerate our transition to carbon neutrality.

2. Include additional information and clarity around the West District Energy Plan (WDEP) and renewable energy credits (RECs)*

- Additional information has been added around the intent of the WDEP upgrades and the use of RECs.
- Added REC language addresses the need for future flexibility regarding virtual net metering and/or similar opportunities for increasing renewable energy use while maintaining our commitment toward achieving our carbon reduction goals without the use of offsets or wholesale unbundled RECs.
- WDEP creates adequate redundancy to ensure campus heating, cooling and electricity needs are met while the campus transition to greener energy sources takes place, which will include taking various campus systems and equipment offline while energy-efficiency upgrades and campus heating transitions occur. It also provides long-term resiliency for the campus in the event of grid outages.

3. Provide deeper acknowledgement of missing 2020 GHG targets and what was learned and will be implemented to avoid missing 50% GHG reduction of Scopes 1, 2, and some of Scope 3 by 2030

- Additional information has been added regarding our shortfall in meeting the 2020 target of 20% GHG reductions. The importance of meeting the 50% reduction by 2030 is fully recognized, and confirmation that we are on track to meeting necessary milestones to get there will be documented through the publicly available dashboard that will be available to all who are interested.

- While we recognize having missed the 2020 goal, we also recognize that we have made progress in improving the efficiency of our buildings on campus, reducing emissions by 15.6% over 15 years based on the 2005 baseline. (Note: 2020 was impacted by COVID-19 shutdowns of campus operations, and after resuming on-site operation, the 2021 reduction from the 2005 baseline was 10.1%.)
 - Note also that, during that 2005 to 2020 timeframe, the campus grew by more than 3 million square feet (29%), and the number of days during which heating and cooling were required increased (2% increase in days needed to heat buildings and 19% increase in days needed to cool buildings). The fact that we kept energy consumption relatively level in spite of these factors is of significant note.
 - Both Sustainability Councils will now also have continuous oversight on the progress being made toward the stated GHG reduction goals.
- 4. Provide a more comprehensive Scope 3 emissions inventory and Concrete Strategies***
- Scope 3 is a new undertaking for our campus and will require significant focus and work. The intent of this CAP was to establish a baseline for Scope 3 emissions inventory on which we could continue to build in future years. A Scope 3 working group will be one of the first steps taken after the official publication of the CAP to improve the inventory and suggest additional strategies for reductions.
 - Please see the Scope 3 annex with timelines.
- 5. Include Athletics Department activities in Scope 3 inventory***
- Additional detail has been added to include Athletics Department (CUAD) activities for Scope 3.
 - Expanding data from CUAD is a recognized need going forward and will be a priority of the Sustainability Executive Council and CAP implementers.
- 6. Formally commit to following all SBTi rules and submit targets for validation**
- Added clarification that SBTi does not currently include universities in its validation program.
 - If the program changes in the future, this is something the Sustainability Executive Committee can consider.
- 7. Enhance governance to include students, tenure track faculty and marginalized community members (student government proposal); grant decision-making authority to student representatives within the Sustainability Executive Council**
- Language has been added to highlight the makeup of the Sustainability Executive Council and the inclusion of shared governance, including representation from BFA, CUSG and GPSG.
 - The Sustainability Executive Council structure now includes CUSG and GPSG representation on the Engagement Working Group, as well as student representation on the Sustainability Council established by the Chancellor, which also plays an important role in forwarding campus feedback, policy, program and investment ideas to the Chancellor and Sustainability Executive Council.

- Additionally, D'Andra Mull, vice chancellor for student affairs, serves on the Executive Council to help represent the interests of students.

8. Publish meeting minutes, provide decision-making data, and open communication*

- Language has been added to outline how meeting minutes and other information from both the Sustainability Executive Council and Sustainability Council will be made public.

9. Shift equity from co-benefit to a core standalone category within the CAP: "how climate strategies can address systemic injustices" and include additional equity-related strategies*

- There is a CAP Equity Annex that will be published with the CAP providing additional information on the equity subcommittee's process of community engagement, analysis of equity implications, and consideration of equity-focused strategies. As with most aspects of the CAP, addressing equity will require ongoing, transparent and measurable work across the campus. The groundwork laid by the equity subcommittee that supported the CAP will ideally help build a broader coalition of the many individuals and divisions across campus focused on diversity, equity, inclusion and justice to help guide the content and implementation of the CAP as one important focus in the coming years.
- Additional information on equity-related implications and strategies will be developed in the first year of CAP implementation.

10. Call for clear and consistent transparency on decision-making process by the Sustainability Executive Council*

- In addition to published meeting minutes, a public facing [dashboard](#) will be available to learn about and monitor the progress being made in GHG reductions on the campus.