



Notes
Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (ACES)
September 11, 2025
5:30 PM
Superior Community Center
1500 Coalton Road

This meeting will be held in person and online. Members of the public may [participate in the meeting via Zoom](#) ([instructions](#)) or [view the meeting on YouTube](#) (closed captioning available). The recording of the meeting will be made available on [YouTube](#) and at [SuperiorColorado.gov](#) after the meeting.

- a. Call Meeting to Order
- b. Preliminary Matters
 - Roll Call
 - Present: Jim Zarske, Michelle Gazarik, Miles Hoffman, Nikki Hewett, John Heckman, Patrick Payne
 - Absent: Lisa Barnes
 - Staff Present: Alexis Bullen
 - Approval of Agenda: Jim explained the need to reorder agenda to have a quorum for voting at the beginning of today's meeting. John Heckman moved 1st to reorder agenda, 2nd by Patrick Payne; unanimously approved.
 - Public Comment (limit 5 minutes/person): None
- c. Updates
 - Town Council Liaison: Jenn Kaaoush was appointed to Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) 25-person council. John Heckman supports Arizona's air quality council through ASU and offered to help.

Town Council and Staff are halfway through analyzing next year's budget requests, another meeting next week. Focus is on economic development.
 - Town Staff
 - It's ACES member Nikki Hewitt's last meeting on ACES; she is moving back to Singapore. There are now currently 3 vacancies on ACES.
 - Launched new composting campaign "Every Scrap Matters". Will be back tabling about compost education and services at Fall Fest on Oct 18.

- Alexis updated ACES Drop Box with resource documents
- DRCOG CPRG Building Policy Grant of \$300,000 for Superior from EPA: we are talking with City of Northglenn, who also contracts with SAFEbuilt, about sharing a SAFEbuilt staff member to help SAFEbuilt educate contractors, residents applying for permit and work on energy code related items. Also have funds to hire a p/t person to assist with grant administration, reporting, work with SAFEbuilt, analyze permit data, look for opportunities and suggest policies.
- Upcoming events:
 - Oct 18 Fall Fest, 9 am – 1 pm in Downtown Superior (DTS), Jeff and Paige are scheduled to perform, including song on composting. The compost magician Ms. Peel will perform again. Patrick Payne can volunteer to table for one hour. Jim may be able to also table.
 - Dec 6, Holiday Bazaar, 10 am – 3 pm, Michelle can table this entire event. ACES will vote on sustainable swag at next meeting.
 - Dec 13, Winterfest, 1-5 pm. DTS: Need ACES members to cover this event

d. Discussion Items

Eco-Cycle Eco-Leader Discussion:

- Alexis reviewed current ACES budget; gave ACES the option to approve up to \$2500 based on Eco-Cycle's proposal for individual and Train-the-Trainer style workshops for existing and newly recruited Eco-Leaders that dive deeper into Zero Waste topics.
- John Heckman moved 1st to budget \$2000 from ACES for Eco-Leader program based on their scope, 2nd by Patrick Payne; unanimously approved. Miles suggested we host training at the SCC and DTS Civic Space, that is accessible for students and parents. Miles will reach out to MOHI Eco-Club and BVSD Sustainability Dept (Ghita/Erin).
- Town Council member Kaaoush suggested to talk to SYLC about Eco-Leader program; they seek more involved projects.
- Nikki mentioned to use national and international event announcements to recruit Eco-Leaders. Climate Week is September 21-28, '25 in NYC, <https://www.climateweeknyc.org> and 2025 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) will be held in [Belém, Brazil](#) from November 10-21, 2025.
- Michelle and Austin will work on a plan and calendar for Eco-Leader training and recruitment for the remainder of 2025 and 2026 for presentation at next meeting.

Leaf Pickup:

- Jim shared that 5-6 years ago we offered free paper bags instead of plastic black bags. Girl Scouts turned it into a fundraiser to transport those bags from resident's curbside to town's yard debris collection site. ACES funds the bags; folks can pick up at SCC. Alexis reported the SCC runs out of bags at the end of leaf collection season. Therefore, we will encourage residents who dispose of the leaves themselves at yard debris site to return durable empty and folded

paper bags suitable for reuse back to SCC. Looking to approve \$300.

- John Heckman 1st moved to approve \$300 for purchase of leaf paper collection bags, 2nd by Patrick Payne, approved unanimously.

Republic Services and Town Waste Service Update:

- Update on 3-cart program. Steve Gilmore, Republic Services, attended as a guest. He and Alexis will go to Town Council on Oct 27 to present,
- Alexis will email slide deck to ACES members after meeting.
- Republic calculates recycling weights based on the truck weight in and out of the Boulder County Recycling Center. They calculate the trash and compost weights based on their scales at their Republic landfill and compost facilities in Bennett.
- Currently 1100 households have chosen trash carts based on the following breakdown: 10% largest size, 60% medium size, and 30% smallest size. Everyone can pick what works best for their household. 5-month waste diversion average for 2025: 38.2% Waste diversion is calculated as (wt recycling + wt compost)/ wt of trash +recycling +compost. Our goal is 65% from landfill by 2030.
- Alexis mentioned since 2022, we have pulled data from Re-TRAC system, a BOCO- reporting tool. Required in 2022, it is self -reported by haulers. Staff has noted and followed up on hauler errors in how data was reported that changed our diversion stats. Our residential diversion rates were 25% in 2023 (Alexis updated post-meeting) and 26% diversion in 2024. Community-wide diversion stats would also account for diversion to yard waste drop-off site and household hazardous waste collected at Boulder County Hazardous Waste Management Facility (BOCO HMMF).
- Alexis gave an update on Extended Producer Responsibility state policy and how Superior is responding, what is next.
- Republic reported just over 700 households are composting. 400 still not composting.
- Uptime is 85% Running in Louisville and Superior. Fully integrated EV trucks Voltare models. Everything runs off battery. Now at 5 trucks; getting 9 more at end of Nov. Currently installing 23 pedestal in Commerce City for 46 charging stations.
- All Republic's electricity from renewable energy sources/credits.
- Residents should put carts out by 7 am

Municipal Natural Gas Offsets:

- Prompted by John and Nikki.
 - Presentation by Alexis. We bought offsets for our municipal buildings' use of natural gas. We are paying \$5000 to a company in OK to close orphan wells leaking methane. John asked why we don't spend more on carbon offsets.
 - Nikki and John presented how rigorous CCP-verification meets high integrity standards. Not putting a price on carbon is a big deal. John prefers a removal of carbon like biochar, but its standards are still in development.
 - John voiced his concern about the perception from anyone not in this business to continue to buy offsets instead of reducing natural gas usage. This is why we need to advise our town to complete a decarbonization plan.

Messaging; Working Group Report Out and Digital Sign

- Patrick, John and Michelle met at 5 pm as Working Group to address action item on messaging for remaining tabling events in 2025.
 - John and Michelle attended the Front Range Sustainability Council business meeting via Zoom on Sept 10.
 - Michelle explained history of how Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) was created and adopted. And then explained how it was translated into our Sustainability Dashboard on the website. Our town was one of the first municipalities to adopt a transparent measurement system and publicly post it on the dashboard. And then we discussed how these ties into our 2025 Work Plan. Our work plan is 2/3 through the year completed, and we have the rest of 2025 to meet our goals of communication and education on rebate opportunities for residents.
 - We brainstormed a visual of a home with a checklist of sustainable actions and behaviors. We also recommended that we build upon the Electrify 1-2-3 home graphic, adding rebates and savings from other parts of SAP.
 - Patrick demonstrated how Digital Display Sign works; essentially it is a large Android phone screen. We can create a slide deck on these rebates for residents and ask Alexis when we could table for the public. Michelle suggested Senior Breakfast on first Wednesday of each month at the Superior Community Center.
- e. Adjourn: Vice Chair Nikki Hewitt moved 1ST, Michelle 2ND ; unanimously approved to adjourn.

Action Items:

- 1) Working group will meet next month, Oct 9, 5 pm, to create a proposal to host public education office hours using Electrify 123 checklist and add other rebates from our website. Michelle will ask if we could table at the Senior breakfast.
- 2) Miles will contact MOHI Eco-Club and BVSD Ghita and Erin to discuss feasibility of hosting Eco-Leader training with students and parents through school eco-clubs.
- 3) Michelle and Austin will work on a plan and calendar for Eco-Leader training and recruitment for the remainder of 2025 and 2026 for presentation at next meeting.
- 4) Create informational flyer to accompany leaf paper bag pick up for residents to snap a photo with their smart phones. Include yard debris site address, hours, how to return empty and folded bags for reuse.
- 5) Alexis will email Republic Services slides to ACES afterwards.

Next Meeting: October 9, 2025, at the Superior Community Center