



Notes
Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (ACES)
August 13, 2026
5:30 PM
Superior Town Hall
124 E. Coal Creek Drive

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.

1. Call Meeting to Order 5:31pm
2. Preliminary Matters
 - a. Roll Call
 - Present: Jim Zarske, Miles Hoffman, Lisa Barnes, John Heckman, Patrick Payne, Aditya Banerjee
 - Staff Present: Alexis Bullen
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - John motion
 - Patrick second
 - Approved Unanimously
 - c. Public Comment (limit 5 minutes/person)
 - Jamie Dixon
 - Emphasized the need for the Town to investigate Vargas spraying event in the park, ref: email to ACES
 - Originally presented to Council Aug 2025
 - Water/pond near the spraying of chemicals/herbicides/insecticides
 - Vargas met with Parks - sprayed from Indiana to Pitkin to McCaslin. People catch and eat crawfish from that pond.

- Jamie was told spraying was limited to 20 feet away from the pond but this was not her experience.
- Need signage that warns against consumption of pond creatures (crawdads) around the pond.
- Should be competitive bidding for environmental town impacts like spraying, tree planting, garden establishment, etc.
- These chemicals are also not listed on the Town's website/disclosures.
- Discussions are happening at council level at the moment - ACES asked for follow-up with the Town, Leslie, etc. to get a report out.

3. Updates

a. Town Council Liaison

- Attended the Consortium of Cities, where they discussed long-term climate trends, water and drought, etc. for preparedness and planning.
 - The meeting was recorded and can be shared.
- Working with RAQC regarding news and media engagement, talking about wildfire smoke and the community sharing experiences of how residents respond to fire trauma. What could be done around social norming - sharing experiences and reactions to bad air.
- Finance committee meeting next week to get the budget prepared for council conversation.
- 4 open seats for council. Consider running.

b. Town Staff

- **Switched item a and b - received staff update before council update. Recommendation to amend agenda permanently.**
- **Lisa proposed, Miles seconded, passed.**
- Electrification rebates live through Power Ahead CO.
 - \$1500 for heat pumps, pursuing Superior-specific rebates
- Aug 31st work session talking about water conservation. Includes turf plan, prioritization tool, areas that have been turned

off for irrigation, etc.

- Water Conservation draft live with survey on Shape Superior
 - Staff asked ACES members to review the draft and take the survey.
- Budget update - all internal discussions held. Next steps - council sessions. Final vote in October.
 - Hazardous Waste bill moving to utility budget (moving out of general funds)
 - Capital budget - solar, O&M, Building decarb cut back to \$75k. Turf conversion cut back to \$50k. Rock Creek conversion not included in that.
 - Sustainability position removed - need to review before Rock Creek potentially rolls into the Town waste contract
- Workplans - CDP reporting - legacy item - a lot of work (50 plus hours) - somewhat duplicative of dashboards. Going to pause CDP.
- Halloween costume exchange happening through Sept - event Oct 2 at Louisville Library. Sep 1-Sep 30 at civic space.
- 3 new potential ACES members Sept 14th interviews? Trying to move up.
- In Town hall probably through the end of the year for ACES meetings

4. Discussion Items

- a. Presentation on Apartment Complex Recycling and Composting Assessment Project from IDG
 - Kelly Mitchell and Chris Mitchell - [Inclusive Design Group](#)
 - Partnered with C3 on this project
 - Focus on Bell, Origin, Foxley complex (new construction)
 - Recycling in all new developments per statute
 - Discussion around recommendations for Town and Property Actions
 - Need to get current waste and recycling services working properly
- b. Proposed Business Microgrant Presentation
 - Pilot being floated for next year
 - Colorado Green Business Network
 - Business survey - interested but not aware of sustainability

- Comp plan - businesses would be interested in learning
- Trying to incentivize - \$5k in the budget –
- Can be stacked on top of existing PACE and Xcel rebates and programs
- Max award \$2,500 - launch in February 2027
- Ask of ACES
 - a. Types of recognition
 - i. Window visibility – grant awardee, not “green business”
 - ii. Directory listing and profile stories
 - iii. Events placement
 - b. Additional examples
 - i. Customer-facing interactions, compost drop-off, etc.
 - c. Official Title
 - i. Green Business Microgrant
- An opportunity to partner with the Chamber to share with their members and their channels
- Rubric to include home businesses, profiles, services, etc.
- c. ACES events discussion
 - Chili Fest
 - Fix the pinball machine
 - Miles & Patrick shift 1:30-4, John and Lisa shift 4-6
 - Invite the new applicants to participate
 - Swag -
 - a. Town-branded bags
 - b. Produce Bags
 - c. Utensil Kits
 - d. Candy dispenser
 - e. Hot Tamales candies
 - Set up an idea board for sustainable business ideas - capture from adults - inform microgrant project
 - Motion to look at all items recommended, order swag up to \$2k
 - John motioned, Miles seconded, passed
 - Green Team has been relaunched - SYLC - looking to support in a sustainability capacity, discuss potential partnerships. Aim for September meeting.
 - Brainstorm on discussion items to bring to the next meeting.

- Grow into core partnership
- d. ACES Water Conservation and Council
 - Advance a letter from ACES to Council - recommend voluntary watering restrictions
 - Plan to have regional water experts to present each year to Council to make a decision that extends beyond the Town.
 - Communication to residents
 - Are regional discussions happening?
 - Jim to take the lead on writing a draft
 - Motion to provide Jen with recommendations to present to Council based on ACES discussion
 - Recommendation to be transparent about why the Town doesn't have drought restrictions - send information to residents.
 - Be less reactive, be more proactive
 - Standing update on water and climate
 - Next Council meeting is 8/24

5. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn - Miles, Patrick seconded: adjourned at 7:51pm

Action Items:

- 1) Switch council and staff update at the beginning of the meeting on future agendas.
- 2) Brainstorm on discussion items to bring to the next meeting for collaboration with SYLC.
- 3) Reach out to ACES applicants to participate at Chili Fest
- 4) Alexis/Emily to research and spend up to \$2k to get new swag in time for Chili Fest.

Next Meeting: September 10, 2026, at Superior Town Hall