

Moab Planning Commission Agenda Item

Sustainability Action Plan

Meeting Date: November 9, 2023

Title: Briefing and possible action on Moab Sustainability Action Plan, A resolution adopting the 2023 Sustainability Action Plan.

Disposition: Briefing and possible action

Staff: Alexi Lamm, Sustainability Director; Cory Shurtleff, Planning Director

Presenter: Alexi Lamm, Sustainability Director

Attachment(s):

Exhibit 1: Draft Resolution #28-2023

Exhibit 2: Summary of Sustainability Action Plan

Options:

1. Positive Recommendation with or without modifications; or
2. Continue action on the item and give specific direction to the applicant and staff as to additional information needed; or
3. Negative Recommendation to the City Council.

Motion for Recommendation:

I move that the City of Moab Planning Commission forward a positive recommendation to City Council on the adoption of Resolution #28-2023: A Resolution adopting the 2023 Sustainability Action Plan.

Background/Summary:

Moab's Sustainability Action Plan draws on the significant work done to date to advance a healthy and safe city for current and future residents of Moab. Among Moab's previous efforts is its status as the nation's first [EPA Green Power Community](#) by exceeding a minimum threshold of voluntary green power purchases. By 2009, the formal scope of Moab's sustainability had expanded with the adoption of the [2020 Vision: A Sustainable Moab Plan](#).

Since then, the city has continued to pursue sustainability in its initiatives and goals. In 2017, the City [committed to 100% renewable electricity by 2032](#), and in 2019, the City set a goal to source [100% renewable electricity](#) by 2030, allowing it to become an anchor community for the [Utah Renewable Communities](#). Sustainability is also evident in the City's [General Plan](#), [Water Conservation Plan Update](#), [Unified Transportation Master Plan](#), and [Moab Tomorrow Together Think Tank Report](#).

For a unified path forward, the Sustainability Action Plan draws on Moab's progress and maps out the next steps for the City to equitably pursue climate action and sustainability. It identifies goals, strategies, and will identify metrics within six topic areas:

1. Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy & Buildings
2. Land Use & Planning
3. Transportation
4. Materials Management
5. Nature & Ecosystems
6. Water

Of the strategies identified, six are in the process of being developed into implementation plans, so the City and stakeholders can begin work on them immediately once the full plan is adopted. The top strategies were rated by Brendle Group, staff, and the Project Management Team based on community support, impact (e.g., greenhouse gas emissions, contributions to resilience), co-benefits (e.g., equity and wellbeing), and practicality of implementation (i.e. cost, staff time, and political feasibility).

The Technical Advisory Committee chose the six strategies to pursue in these implementation plans with guidance from these ratings with the preference to avoid selecting additional planning for immediate implementation, duplicating projects that are already underway without need for additional support, and identifying strategies out of few topic areas. The remaining strategies will be maintained in a register for future implementation. The six strategies for implementation plans are:

1. Expand the Urban Tree Canopy
2. Facilitate Urban Agriculture
3. Protect Habitat and Green Space
4. Implement Nature-Based Stormwater Solutions
5. Incentivize Energy Efficiency, Renewables, and Indoor Air Quality
6. Pilot an Organic Waste Diversion Pilot

The Draft Sustainability Action Plan summary is being presented by staff for feedback from the Planning Commission.