

UA Sustainability Council || Minutes

Sept 19, 2023
3:00-4:30PM
MS Teams
Tuesday



1. Co-chair updates
 - a. Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities Management, Scott Turley
 - i. Unable to attend due to conflict
 - b. Director of Sustainability Academic Programs, Ken McCown
 - i. Unable to attend due to conflict
 - c. ASG Sustainability Director, Amelia Southern Uribe
 - i. Unable to attend due to conflict
2. UA Solar Service Agreements
 - a. Three solar services agreements in the works right now—the UA Division of Agriculture’s solar farm is up and running, the UAF SSA was approved by the board of trustees and is moving forward, and the UA System SSA is under contract.
 - b. The UA division of Agriculture SSA is a 4-Megawatt solar array on 20 acres, it is estimated to save the UA \$2.4 million over 25 years and will provide the division of agriculture 89% of its electricity.
 - c. The UAF SSA is a 5.1-Megawatt array on 25 acres, projected to save the UA \$3.1 million over 25 years and provide 6.3% of the electricity on the UAF campus.
 - d. The UA System SSA is planned to be a 74-Megawatt array on 370 acres, saving the UA over \$149 million during the 25 year term.
3. Ecosia project overview and update (Stephen Ritterbush and Alexandra Kennington)
 - a. Ecosia is a search engine that plants trees. Ecosia is a certified B Corporation, and a carbon negative business. A student grassroots campaign proposed to make this the default search engine on all UA lab computers.
 - b. The UA ITS is currently reviewing Ecosia to make sure it meets the safety standards set for campus—Ecosia is currently sending over all the necessary information to be reviewed.

4. UA Bird Strike project (Erin Sauer)
 - a. Window collisions cause 1.4 billion mortalities of birds annually.
 - b. Arkansas is in the Mississippi Flyway, one of the largest migration areas in the United States.
 - c. There is regular monitoring for migratory bird strikes in the Spring and Fall, and the program started in 2021.
 - d. So far 78 dead birds have been found on campus due to window strikes.
 - e. The three main problem buildings on campus for window strikes are the Law Library Courtyard, Bell Engineering skyway, and the WCOB skyway.
 - f. Retroactive solutions can be done via various window treatments, but it is best to be considered in the design of the building.
5. 2023 Bicycle Safety Block Party (Todd Hansen)
 - a. Successfully gave away 38 bikes to international students, bringing the total number of bikes given away by Pedal it Forward in the past three years to over 200.
 - b. There was a sustainability mixer with ASG and RSOs that happened at the same time as the block party.
6. Fayetteville Traverse Update (Eric Boles)
 - a. Maple Street redesign project submitted for two more grants.
 - b. The Maple street cycle track is an important piece of completing the “campus loop” which part of the Oak Ridge Trail extension was built this past summer.
 - c. Once the Oak Ridge trail extension is done, it will connect into maple street, leaving it to be the last piece on infrastructure to create a campus loop that would be a contiguous paved trail for commuting and recreating safely.
7. E-scooter data update (Eric Boles)
 - a. Tabled until November meeting
8. Cruise to Campus Wednesday (Eric Boles)
 - a. Inaugural “Cruise to Campus” was held the morning of September 6 on Old Main Lawn.
 - b. The OFS gave out Onyx coffee and breakfast sandwiches to approximately 100 bicycling commuters that stopped by.
 - c. This is the first in a series for this semester and is designed to reward those coming to campus not in a car.
 - d. The Next Cruise to Campus is set for Wednesday October 11 from 7:30-10:00am and there will also be one Wednesday November 1.

9. OFS Trail Love || Every Tuesday 3PM @ the UA Press House above Oak Ridge
10. Good-of-the-Order
11. Next meeting is November 14th, 2023