

UA Sustainability Council || Agenda



April 14, 2026
Tuesday
3:00-4:30PM
MS Teams

1. Co-chair updates
 - a. Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities Management, Mike Oestereicher
 - i. Facilities Management is currently undergoing restructuring to better facilitate the University and campus facilities.
 - ii. Mike is excited the FAMA team and Scott Turley have played such an integral roll in facilitating the Solar Services Agreement, the biggest step the U of A has made towards their 2040 climate goals.
 - b. Director of Sustainability Academic Programs, Ken McCown
 - c. ASG Director of Environmental Affairs, Ben Hollis
 - i. ASG is hosting an Earth Day Celebration on Wednesday, April 22 on Old Main Lawn from 1-4. Unlike previous years, this will be a more relaxed environmental hangout with bouquet making, button making, watercolor, and other outdoor activities. RSOs in the Eco Coalition are also invited to host a table or an activity.
 - ii. ASG is in the process of appointing a new Director of Environmental Affairs for the 2026-27 year. They will also have a larger focus on hosting zero-waste events in collaboration with the Union Sustainability Team and OFS.
2. City of Fayetteville updates about recycling and Earth Day plans, Peter Nierengarten
 - a. City of Fayetteville's website has an extensive list of Earth Week activities, and they are hosting two events at the Marion Orton Recycling Center, and all are welcome to join!
 - b. Gave an overview of the new single stream recycling program the City of Fayetteville has implemented, and City's Sustainability Team has been working hard to make that program a success.
 - c. With the new cart-based program, accepted recyclables will stay the same. However, residents will not have to separate recyclables before taking them to the curb using the blue cart, and recycling drivers will not have to sort those recyclables at the curb into the recycling truck. Instead, all accepted recyclables (except for glass) can be placed in the single, larger blue cart.
 - d. They have disbursed roughly 36,000 new blue recycling bins to customers, and the use of these bins which are part of the new system start on June 1.
3. UA Earth Day/Week updates, Todd Hansen

- a. Shared a calendar of events for Earth Week on the U of A's side of things including events registered student organizations are putting on, Union Sustainability Team's recycling and composting opportunities, the Solar Ribbon Cutting for the U of A (location: 8200 Weddington Drive), ASG Earth week events and the OFS Earth Day Celebration.
- 4. New Alternative Transportation Discovery + Assessment study with Lane Shift, Ryan Hale
 - a. Ryan Hale is the founder of Lane Shift, a consulting firm that specializes in bicycle and pedestrian planning and design. They will be working with the U of A on the new parking deck being built on Razorback Rd.
 - b. They will work closely with the U of A to help plan and designing the parking garage to not just be a place to store cars, but also a meaningful transportation beacon on campus.
 - c. It will serve as a space for all types of mobility and serve as a catalyst for transportation into campus.
 - d. They plan on doing this through focus groups about the transportation needs of stakeholders on campus, which will begin this summer, experiencing the campus infrastructure, identifying gaps and opportunities, and assisting with new parking garage connections.
- 5. Updates from Emma Armendariz, the UA's Active Transportation Coordinator
 - a. Cruise to Camous is coming up on Wednesday, May 6, and will continue the first Wednesday of the month through the summer.
 - b. Bike Library Update: 24 bikes were available this spring, 15 more than last fall, and are expecting 30-50 more bikes to be added over the summer. With this expansion, space under the Greek Theater will be utilized to store the bikes.
 - c. National Campus Bike Summit is set to be hosted at the U of A on October 6-9.
 - d. Update on new bike racks installed across campus and asked the general council if there are any places they know that needs bike racks or needs an upgraded rack.
 - e. Campus Loop is getting another segment built this summer, getting the U of A one step closer to having a complete "campus loop" that will be a contiguous paved trail to envelope the campus core and allow for efficient transportation and recreation.
- 6. Arkansas Union sustainability updates, Lance Grigsby
 - a. Spring plantings and volunteer opportunities during Earth Week at the Union, including pepper planting, composting and recycling sorting.
 - b. Lance is helping the Union pursue LEED v5.0 in Operations and Maintenance for the Union, which would be the first LEED certified O+M on campus.
 - c. There are now public composting bins on the 3rd floor of the Union next to the fireplace, and at the 2nd floor sustainability station.
- 7. New Campus Garden partnership with Full Circle Food Pantry, Eric Boles
 - a. New garden beds were constructed behind OFS and will be used by the Full Circle Food Pantry to help supplement the produce in the pantry.

- b. Student volunteers plan to get the beds ready and plant vegetables in them in May.
- 8. Good-of-the-Order
- 9. Next meeting is 2nd Tuesday of September. Watch for the calendar invitation.