

Regular Town Council Workshop

December 18, 2023

1:30 PM

Town Council Chambers

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I. ZOOM LINK FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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II. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

III. WORKSHOP ITEMS

- A. Introduction of Kara Hobby, Police Department Administrative Coordinator
- B. Ecosystem Indicators (Tanya Anderson)
- C. Town Sustainability Plan (Tanya Anderson)

IV. MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

V. UPCOMING AGENDA UPDATE

- A. Council Priorities and Upcoming Agendas

VI. ADJOURN

Please note that at any point during the meeting, the Mayor may change the order of items listed on this agenda. In order to ensure that you are present at the time your item of interest is discussed, please join the meeting at the beginning to hear any changes to the schedule or agenda.

Kara Hobby
Administrative Coordinator – Jackson Police Department

Kara Hobby joins the Police Department as the part-time Administrative Coordinator. She has an extensive and diverse background in corporate retail. She worked for Nordstrom for over six years in various roles, including Item Analyst and Product Coordinator. Most recently, she was the Buying Office Assistant for the celebrity chef brands at The Home Shopping Network. In 2019, she moved to Jackson to be a stay-at-home mom to her three-year-old son and is now thrilled to be joining the Jackson Police.

STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date:	December 18, 2023	Meeting Title:	Town Council Workshop
Submitting Department:	Community Development	Presenter:	Tanya Anderson
Agenda Item:	Ecosystem Indicators	Public Comment	Yes

Purpose & Policy Considerations.

The purpose of this item is to update Town Council on progress thus far in developing indicators of a healthy ecosystem and seek direction on next steps.

Requested Action.

Staff requests that Council review the suggested ecosystem health indicators, as provided in this report, and provide direction on next steps.

Recommendations.

Staff recommends that Council approve the proposed ecosystem health indicators.

Background.

The Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator's job description includes primary responsibility for "collecting and evaluating metrics indicating the ecosystem's health, with a desired work product of an annual report delivered to the community regarding the health of the ecosystem, threats to that health, and efforts to preserve and protect the ecosystem." This one sentence summarizes an enormous project with an audacious goal: to determine what a healthy ecosystem is, measure that health, identify threats, and protect it from those threats. In this report, staff will discuss connections to the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan (Comprehensive Plan), shared definitions, the project process thus far, recommendations for indicators, and next steps. Details and background information about each potential indicator discussed is included in an attachment.

This project is tied directly to two strategies in the Comprehensive Plan:

- Strategy 1.G.S.1: Identify appropriate indicators that measure the status of, and progress towards, the Chapter 1 goal. For example, measuring stewardship of natural resources may include establishing indicators of percent change of site development within the Town and County, or tracking contaminant loading from wastewater discharge at the Town of Jackson treatment facility.
- Strategy 1.G.S.2: Establish and Ecosystem Stewardship target for an Adaptive Management Program that will be used to track the Town and County's progress toward goals related to this chapter, including evaluation of threats to the ecosystem's health, and opportunities for helping preserve and protect it.

Currently, the Annual Indicator Report measures progress towards goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan. However, the only ecosystem stewardship metric included in the report is conservation vs. subdivision of rural open space. Water quality, air quality, the health of native species, and access to natural and scenic resources are listed as indicators that need to be developed. While developing additional metrics for the Annual Indicator Report is needed, it will not be enough to adequately assess the health of the ecosystem. To differentiate the Annual Indicator Report from the work project outlined in this report, staff proposes the term "Ecosystem Health Report". The indicators recommended in the Ecosystem Health Report can be used in the Annual Indicator Report; however, the Ecosystem Health Report will measure more environmental indicators than are necessary or desired in the Annual Indicator Report. The two reports should be viewed as companion documents.

To begin this conversation, it is important to understand and agree to common definitions of terms that are used frequently throughout this report. The Comprehensive Plan defines *ecosystem* as “a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment.” Andrewartha & Birch (1984) state that “the *environment* of an animal [bacterium or plant] consists of everything that might influence its chance to survive and reproduce.” While the terms ecosystem and environment are frequently used interchangeably, in this report the word *environment* will refer to the physical habitat of an organism, and *ecosystem* will refer to the interaction between organisms and their environments.

Indicators are measurements that tell us what is happening in the world around us by quantifying and simplifying phenomena to help us understand complex realities. Indicators tell us about changes in a system. The Comprehensive Plan defines an indicator as “a measurable data metric that can be monitored annually to provide insight on how well our community is achieving agreed-upon community values.” Indicators can be used to evaluate performance towards a clearly defined target, to send a message to policy makers when a threshold is crossed, to support claims for causality between pressures and environmental conditions, and to provide real data and support field testing of models and possible future scenarios. Indicators start with a baseline value and may include targets that are desirable or thresholds that should not be crossed or that trigger an action. Most indicators fall within the following three categories:

- Direct Measurements are specific data measurements, such as habitat acreage, species counts, or water temperature. While they are straightforward, they require interpretation or simplification to understand their significance. Multiple direct measurements may be needed to assess the health of a single aspect of the ecosystem, such as surface water quality or air quality.
- Proxy Measurements use a measurement to *represent* ecosystem health. Examples include population counts of macroinvertebrates or focal species that serve as the proverbial “canary in the coalmine” for our local ecosystem health. Proxy measurements are easier to understand and can simplify data gathering by measuring multiple threats through one indicator. However, if a significant change is recorded, it may not be possible to determine the cause without the support of direct measurements. Furthermore, proxy measurements sometimes have weak correlations or measure the wrong thing. For example, asthma rates may not be an appropriate measure of air quality in Jackson because people with asthma may move here seeking cleaner air, rates are influenced by quality of health care, and asthma is strongly influenced by indoor air quality.
- Performance Measurements track progress towards community goals. Examples may include the number of bear-resistant trash cans deployed in the community, or the percent of land conserved under conservation easements. While they may be an appropriate measurement for some ecosystem stewardship goals, they need to correlate to direct measurements showing improved ecosystem health to be meaningful.

Direct, proxy, and performance measurements serve different purposes and are all valuable when used in the appropriate context. The Annual Indicator Report that is associated with the Comprehensive Plan consists primarily of performance indicators and are tied to specific goals. The Ecosystem Health Report should include a greater number of direct and proxy measurements along with a small number of performance measurements.

Based on the definitions found in the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan, definitions in scientific articles on indicators, and the input of community stakeholders, staff recommends using the following definitions:

- Environment = Everything that might influence an organism’s chance to survive and reproduce (Andrewartha & Birch, 1984)
- Ecosystem = A biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment (Comp Plan)
- Healthy ecosystem = One that is intact in its physical, chemical, and biological components and their interrelationships, such that it is resilient to withstand change and stressors.
- Our area = The Snake River Headwaters Watershed above the confluence of the Greys River.

- Indicator = A measurable data metric that can be monitored annually to provide insight on how well our community is achieving agreed-upon community values (Comprehensive Plan)
- Baseline value: The indicator's value at time zero (Pauly, 1995; Roberts, 2007)
- Target value: The desired value for the indicator over a given period of time
- Threshold value: tipping point beyond which serious and/or irreversible - and usually negative or undesired - changes in environmental systems occur (Ecologic Institute; 2010)

The Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator approached this work according to the following timeline:

Summer 2022 – Researched indicator reports in other communities for examples.

Summer/Fall 2022 – Conducted individual interviews with stakeholders.

December 2022 – Sent survey to stakeholders to solicit interest in stakeholder groups in five areas: air, land, water, wildlife, and plants.

January - June 2023 – Held stakeholder meetings and compiled database of existing monitoring and data collection that could be used if data is shared openly.

Summer/Fall 2023 – Compiled results of stakeholder meetings and drafted staff report.

The individual interviews sparked ideas for how to approach the project, helped refine definitions, and expanded the network of stakeholders. The focus groups gathered experts in one room to further hone the ideas generated in the individual interviews. Each focus group session began with introductions and an overview of the purpose of the meeting, the scope of the project, and important definitions. Stakeholders were then asked to discuss three basic questions. Groups varied greatly in their discussions and how much time was spent on each of the following questions:

1. How do we define a healthy environment, community, and economy as it relates to our focus area (air, water, wildlife, etc)?
2. What are the best indicators to measure our progress towards a healthy environment, community, and economy as it relates to our focus area?
3. If you had to narrow these down to one or two indicators for an annual report presented to elected officials, what would they be?

Some focus groups met more than once. Following each focus group meeting, staff sent meeting notes to all attendees and stakeholders who were unable to attend seeking corrections, clarifications, and additional information.

Analysis.

To clarify the purpose of this project, the Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator proposes the following desired outcomes for the Ecosystem Health Project:

1. Data will be collected*, evaluated, and compiled to provide a snapshot of the health of our ecosystem and how it is changing.
2. Data will be analyzed seasonally or annually, depending on the indicator and the need for adaptive management**
3. Trends will be shared annually in a publicly available report that assesses ecosystem health, threats, and recommended actions.
4. Indicators can be added or changed over time to adequately monitor emerging threats.
5. Town of Jackson staff will utilize this data to inform their work and prioritize stewardship of our ecosystem.

*It would be impossible for one staff to collect data in multiple disciplines. Staff recommends relying on data that is collected by other organizations as much as possible.

****Periodic studies can be added to the report on a case-by-case basis. Any metric measured less frequently than annually is noted in the recommendations.**

Discussion Question #1: Are these the right desired outcomes?

We defined a healthy ecosystem, but what does that look like in *our* ecosystem? Focus group participants came up with dozens of statements as they attempted to define and envision a healthy environment. Staff combined and summarized the points that emerged into the following ten statements that define a healthy local environment.

We have a healthy environment if:

1. Air quality is within healthy ranges for our community, there are no harmful algal blooms in high alpine lakes, and future generations can enjoy the same clarity and visibility of the Teton Range that we enjoy today.
2. The Milky Way is visible from anywhere in Teton County.
3. Our surface waters sustain cold water fisheries and are free of invasive species, our groundwater is not depleted from present levels, and we can safely recreate in surface waters and drink from the faucet.
4. Invasive species are eradicated.
5. There is an appropriate collage of native plant habitats with rich species diversity and sufficient reproductive success to maintain healthy populations over time.
6. Habitat is ample, provides natural connectivity between intact patches, and is void of barriers to wildlife movement or ecological processes.
7. Topsoil is retained and has the biological, chemical, and physical properties needed to support natural functions.
8. Land use efficiently supports natural systems, provides resilience to disturbance, and mitigates the impacts of climate change.
9. Our community understands and values our unique water resources, values healthy land and is aware of the threats and impacts of soil degradation, values wildlife and recognizes its importance as a main driver of our economy, has the knowledge and tools to prevent the spread of invasive species, and is ecologically literate.
10. Our community anticipates wildfires, flood, drought, and natural disaster risk, has a resiliency plan, and implements it.

There are industry standards for many indicators that can be included as targets or thresholds for individual indicators. The statements above are not intended to specify targets; rather they are broad statements that can be used, along with the Comprehensive Plan, to determine the areas we want to monitor.

Discussion Questions #2: Do you agree with these statements defining a healthy local environment?

Staff recommendations:

In order to make recommendations for indicators to track, staff organized potential indicators into three categories related to the ease with which data can be gathered and reported and importance as a metric of ecosystem health.

1. Priority 1 indicators are important as metrics of ecosystem health, are relatively easy to implement, and can be tracked starting in 2024. They are:
 - a. Indicators using data that are currently being gathered and reported by other organizations and could be added to a report with minimal additional work.
 - b. Indicators using data that are currently being gathered by other organizations but would need some staff time to compile and report in an understandable format.
2. Priority 2 indicators are important metrics of ecosystem health that are more difficult to implement. They could be ready to add to the ecosystem health report within 1-2 years. They are:

- a. Indicators for which the necessary data is currently being gathered by other organizations but are not readily accessible and would require additional staff time to coordinate with agencies and organizations, analyze the data and create a visual representation of it.
 - b. Indicators for which the data is not currently being gathered that staff recommends dedicating resources to implement within the next two years.
3. Priority 3 indicators are wish list indicators for which the required data are not currently being collected. A financial investment would be required to collect, analyze, and share the data, and additional staff may need to be hired. The time frame for adding priority 3 indicators is 3 to 5 years. This could be done in partnership with other organizations.

A detailed description of potential indicators and potential data sources are included in an attachment. For simplicity, each indicator is organized below by priority level and listed by name, metric, and recommendation. Once indicators are selected for the ecosystem health report, staff will assess baseline values and determine target values and threshold values based on the best available science. While most indicators will be measured at least annually, a small number are recommended on a less frequent basis due to the time and financial resources needed to collect the data. Additional one-time studies may be available intermittently that can be included in an annual ecosystem health report but are not included in staff recommendations due to their intermittent nature.

Priority 1 indicators

Indicator	Metric	Recommended?
Particulate Matter near High School (PM 2.5 and PM 10)	micrograms per cubic meter, days that exceed EPA threshold	Y
Visibility in Grand Teton National Park	Miles of visibility	Y
Darkness of the Night Sky	Magnitudes per square arc second and the Bortle scale	Y
Macroinvertebrate samples in Flat Creek and Fish Creek	EPT species richness index	Y
Upstream/downstream surface water sampling of the parameters outlined in the Water Quality Master Plan (WQMP) (as data is available)	Depends on the parameter	Y
Water temperature in the Snake River	Degrees F. Average weekly high and low, number of days temps exceed 68 degrees F.	Y
Discharge (streamflow) in the Snake River	Cubic feet per second	Y
Invasive species treatment	Acres treated	Y
Fencing removed or improved	Miles (annual and cumulative)	Y
Human wildlife conflicts	Number of conflicts per species; type of conflict	Y
Wildlife-vehicle collisions	Number of collisions	N

Staff recommends moving forward with all Priority 1 indicators except for wildlife-vehicle collisions, which are already recorded in the Annual Indicator Report.

Discussion Question #3: Do you support moving forward with the recommended Priority 1 indicators?

Priority 2 indicators

Indicator	Metric	Recommended ?
Nitrogen deposition	Kg/hectare/year	Y
Species counts	Estimated species number and percent change	N
Water temperature in Flat Creek & Fish Creek	Degrees F	Y
Water turbidity in Flat Creek, Fish Creek, and the Snake River	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Y
Storm sampling	Depends on the parameter	Y
Groundwater monitoring parameters outlined in the Water Quality Master Plan (as data is available)	Depends on the parameter	Y
Wildfire risk reduction	Number treated to standard (public, private)	Y
Values survey of residents, visitors, businesses, and staff	Ranking and qualitative analysis	Y

Staff recommends moving forward with all Priority 2 indicators except for species counts. Staff does not recommend species counts due to the high variability in factors that affect species survival, including hunting, weather, and disease. Stakeholder groups prioritized monitoring changes in land use that impacts wildlife movement and survival over species counts. However, it may be appropriate for staff to add species counts intermittently when there is a dramatic change. Council may request that staff report on population estimates of species of interest.

Discussion Question #4: Do you support moving forward with the recommended Priority 2 indicators?

Priority 3 indicators

Indicator	Metric	Recommended?
Prevalence of invasive species	Percent of study areas with invasive plant species	N
Wyoming Stream Integrity Index on Flat Creek & Fish Creek every 3-5 years.	Use WSII parameters	Y
PFAS testing in surface and groundwater	Parts per trillion (4 ppt threshold)	Y
Habitat loss and gain	Percent of land	Y
Wildlife fencing remaining	Miles	N
Development and conservation in wildlife corridors	Acres developed/acres conserved	Y
Road and trail density	Percent change in density	Y
Soil health on agricultural lands	Depends on the parameter	N
Resilience actions taken	Actions taken or completed	N

All priority 3 indicators require financial investment in tools or additional staffing including contract labor. They are not possible to accomplish within the time allocated to this project in the Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator's job description. Staff recommends moving forward with three priority 3 indicators that could be accomplished by one contract laborer using the appropriate GIS tools and training: habitat loss/gain, development in wildlife corridors, and road/trail density. Staff also recommends contracting a study of Flat Creek using the Wyoming Stream Integrity Index every 5 years. If a similar study is done on Fish Creek, the data can be incorporated into the ecosystem health report. However, funding

for the Fish Creek study should come from other sources. Additionally, staff recommends commencing PFAS testing to help our community track this emerging pollutant, noting that EPA has not yet but may establish new regulations for it. Any priority three indicators approved by Council will need to be accounted for in a future budget cycle. Additional priority 3 indicators could be added at a future date if staff time and budgets allow. Staff recommends evaluating the effectiveness of indicators and considering additional indicators annually. Recommendations can be included in the annual Environmental Health Report.

Discussion Question #5: Do you support dedicating resources to the recommended Priority 3 indicators?

Discussion Question #6: Are there any other indicators you would like included in the Ecosystem Health Report?

Next Steps:

Based on the directives from Council at this workshop, staff will:

1. Develop a more detailed plan for monitoring the health of our ecosystem, including targets and thresholds for the desired indicators as well as the frequency with which data is collected or reviewed
2. Begin tracking indicators for which data is available
3. Work with the organizations that currently collect desired data to ensure we will have access in a timely manner
4. Return to Council within six months with a written plan and a communications proposal.

Possible Alternatives.

Council could reject staff recommendations and direct staff to return to Council with different definitions or indicators.

Comprehensive Plan & Priority Alignment.

Chapter 1: Stewardship of Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Scenery

Maintain healthy populations of all native species and preserve the ability of future generations to enjoy the quality natural, scenic, and agricultural resources that largely define our community character.

Principle 1.1: Maintain healthy populations of all native species

For future generations to enjoy the ecosystem that exists today the community must manage our impacts to wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wildlife movement corridors on private and public land. The prevalence of wildlife that is central to our ecological, social, and economic character requires an intact ecosystem that supports all native species. Therefore, efforts to protect wildlife must extend to all native species.

Principle 1.2: Preserve and enhance surface water and groundwater quality

Clean water is one of the most basic requirements of a healthy ecosystem and community. Protecting the water quality of Jackson and Teton County is essential to the ecosystem and scenic beauty that residents and visitors enjoy. In addition, the public has the right to clean, affordable drinking water. Stewardship of surface water bodies of all sizes, the Snake River Sole Source Aquifer, wetlands, riparian areas, and groundwater, is vital to sustaining healthy populations of native species and for the health and safety of the human community. Preservation of water quality includes water features, from small creeks to large systems, including the Snake River Sole Source Aquifer, due to its importance as the community's water source. Among other measures, it is integral to minimize pollution from wastewater and stormwater that cause water quality impairment and threaten overall ecosystem health.

Principle 1.3: Maintain the scenic resources of the community

Scenic resources, natural landforms, and dark skies are vital to the community's natural character. Mountains, moraines, meadows, and other natural viewsheds provide residents and guests with a constant reminder of their location within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Interruption of these natural forms by the built environment detracts from Teton County's scenic character and should be avoided.

Principle 1.4: Protect and steward open space

Protecting open space preserved habitat and scenery and maintains our western agricultural heritage. Avoiding development in critical wildlife areas and providing recreational opportunities that reduce pressure on habitat help

maintain a healthy ecosystem. Agriculture, conservation easements, and other methods to protect open space from development while providing active stewardship of the land should continue to be encouraged.

Strategy 1.G.S.1: Identify appropriate indicators that measure the status of, and progress towards, the Chapter 1 goal. For example, measuring stewardship of natural resources may include establishing indicators of percent change of site development within the Town and County, or tracking contaminant loading from wastewater discharge at the Town of Jackson treatment facility.

Strategy 1.G.S.2: Establish an Ecosystem Stewardship target for an Adaptive Management Program that will be used to track the Town and County's progress toward goals related to this chapter, including evaluation of threats to the ecosystem's health, and opportunities for helping preserve and protect it.

Fiscal Impact.

Data analysis of category 1 indicators and a limited number of category 2 indicators, along with the creation of a basic annual report, could be done within the Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator's current work hours with no fiscal impact. Category 3 indicators will require additional funding.

Staff Impact.

30% of the Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator's job description is dedicated to Ecosystem Stewardship, including the ecosystem health project. All of the work on this project has fallen within that percentage, and much of the future work will also fall within it. Selection of a large number of category 2 or category 3 indicators would push the scope beyond the 30% threshold and would require additional staff support or contract work.

Attachments or Links.

Detailed list of potential indicators
Stakeholder list

Suggested Motion.

I move to direct staff to track the ecosystem indicators recommended by staff in this meeting and to present the data to Council annually in an annual Ecosystem Health Report.

Potential Ecosystem Health Indicators

Participants in the ecosystem indicator focus groups developed statements that describe a healthy local environment, discussed potential indicators of a healthy environment, and prioritized them in order of importance. There were many areas of overlap and similarities between indicators selected for different focus groups. Top indicators are listed below. They are organized under the healthy environment statements, which are bolded and italicized. Connections to Comprehensive Plan Policy Measures are noted in italics. Each indicator has a description and potential data sources. Targets and thresholds will be determined after indicators are selected.

Air quality is within healthy ranges for our community, there are no harmful algal blooms in high alpine lakes, and future generations can enjoy the same clarity and visibility of the Teton Range that we enjoy today.

Particulate Matter

Policy 2.2.c: Improve air quality

Description: Particulate matter is made up of tiny pieces of liquids or solids in the air. It is elevated during periods of wildfire smoke, and can also be elevated by dust, wood burning fireplaces, agriculture, vehicle emissions, construction sites, and more. Particulate matter can get into the lungs when inhaled and cause health problems. PM 2.5, with particles smaller than 2.5 microns, pose the greatest risk to human health. Short-term (24-hour) and long-term (annual) particulate matter thresholds are determined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). In January of 2023, the US EPA proposed lowering the thresholds. Staff recommend using US EPA thresholds for this metric and editing our target and threshold values when EPA thresholds are edited. There are five other principal pollutants defined by the US EPA (ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and lead), but they are not measured regularly in Teton County. Data from periodic studies that occur every 10-20 years can be included in an annual ecosystem health report when available.

Sources: PM 2.5 and PM 10 are both measured by WY DEQ at a site near the high school. Data is accessible but would need to be compiled and visualized.

Nitrogen Deposition

Description: Atmospheric nitrogen deposition is a vector for human-caused nutrient loading to reach high alpine lakes that do not receive nutrient loading from other sources and can contribute to harmful algal blooms in remote locations. Atmospheric deposition may be the result of industry, motor vehicles, agriculture, or other human activities. Much of the atmospheric deposition in our watershed is presumed to come from agricultural operations in Southwestern Idaho.

Sources: Local inputs of atmospheric nitrogen deposition could be estimated by comparing nitrogen deposition on the east and west sides of the valley, at monitoring stations near Targhee and at the South End of Jackson Lake. It will require some work to ensure the data is collected in compatible formats.

Visibility

Comprehensive Plan Principle 1.3: Maintain the scenic resources of the community

Description: Visibility is a proxy measurement for air quality and is connected to the access and enjoyment of the scenic resources in our community. Our economic health is affected via trip cancellations during periods of wildfire smoke, and our community health is affected by illness and hospital visits due to air pollution. Long-term data sets provide insight into changes in visibility due to air pollution and wildfire smoke. However, weather also impacts visibility, so visibility is not always correlated to air quality. It is useful to track trends on an annual basis and look at long-term trends.

Sources: Visibility is currently measured at the Kelly Campus of Grand Teton National Park. Data reporting would have to correspond to the National Park Service timeline and may be delayed by approximately one year. This is acceptable for indicators that are only looking at long-term trends.

The Milky Way is visible from anywhere in Teton County.

Darkness of the Night Sky

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.3.d: Maintain dark night skies.

Description: Artificial light affects the ability of nocturnal wildlife species to navigate their environments and can disrupt migration routes, reproductive success, and circadian rhythms. Artificial lighting is also harmful to human health.

Sources: Wyoming Stargazing tracks magnitudes per square arc second on their website in a downloadable format that can be used to analyze trends in light pollution.

Our surface waters sustain cold water fisheries and are free of invasive species, our groundwater is not depleted from present levels, and we can safely recreate in surface waters and drink from the faucet.

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.2 c: Coordinate water quality monitoring with Teton Conservation District and other partners

Macroinvertebrates

Description: Macroinvertebrates are small organisms that live in fresh water. Some species are more pollutant tolerant than others. Annual sampling of species diversity and the species count of different categories of species found is a proxy indicator for stream health. Macroinvertebrates are typically measured using the EPT richness index, as a percent of three highly sensitive macroinvertebrate orders, Ephemeroptera (mayflies), Plecoptera (stoneflies), and Trichoptera (caddisflies), as a percent of the total taxa found.

Sources: The Teton Conservation District collects macroinvertebrate samples at Flat Creek and Fish Creek annually. Cache Creek is also a reference site for the state of Wyoming.

Upstream/downstream surface water sampling of the parameters outlined in the Water Quality Master Plan (WQMP)

Description: Inputs from human development, both urban and agricultural, can be determined by comparing water quality samples taken upstream and downstream in the Snake River, Flat Creek, Fish Creek, and other streams. There is some sampling taking place along all three of these bodies of water, but monitoring efforts are disjointed. The Draft WQMP recommends testing dissolved oxygen, Escherichia coli (E. coli), Fecal Coliforms, Nitrate, Total Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, pH, Phosphate, Temperature, Total Suspended Solids or Suspended Sediment Concentration, Turbidity, and Discharge. They also recommend considering additional parameters including pesticides and herbicides, volatile organic compounds, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), metals (dissolved), and nitrate isotope analyses. The Draft WQMP recommends initial monthly sampling frequency for a minimum of two years to set an appropriate baseline level of data, followed by two sampling events per year. The Draft also includes a map of current sampling locations and desired future locations.

Sources: US Geologic Survey data. Some of the desired data is available now from current sampling locations. Additional data can be incorporated as it becomes available.

Groundwater monitoring parameters outlined in the Water Quality Master Plan

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.2.d: Protect the Snake River Sole Source Aquifer

Description: Surface water and groundwater interchange frequently in our ecosystem. Most of the drinking water in our community is groundwater, so protecting that resource is important to human

health. Large impacts to surface water can reach groundwater days, weeks or months later. For example, a flood event after a large wildfire may lead to large amounts of sediment containing harmful metals into surface waters that later reach groundwater. The Draft WQMP recommends sampling groundwater for the following parameters: Specific conductance, pH, Temperature, Oxidation/reduction potential, Hardness, Alkalinity, Calcium, Chloride, Fluoride, Magnesium, Arsenic, Nitrate, Total Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Dissolved Potassium, and Total Phosphorus. The additional parameters for surface water can also be considered for groundwater.

Sources: The Town of Jackson already monitors groundwater at our drinking water wells. If additional data is collected at other wells, we can add it to our ecosystem health report at a later date.

Wyoming Stream Integrity Index (WSII)

Description: Wyoming has developed detailed protocols for measuring stream health that include hydrology, geomorphology, physiochemical, and biological characteristics. The comprehensive analysis is too burdensome to complete annually on every stream in the ecosystem and is not necessary in most. However, hiring an ecologist to perform this analysis on impaired streams (Flat Creek and Fish Creek) every 3-5 years would provide valuable information about the health of those streams and how they are changing.

Sources: This indicator would require hiring an ecologist to perform the analysis.

Invasive species are eradicated.

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.1.i: Protect against and mitigate for invasive and nonnative species

Invasive Species Treatment

Description: This performance indicator measures actions taken in our community to reduce the spread of invasives. While it does not measure the spread of invasive species, only the treatment, the data is currently available and relatively easy to incorporate into a report.

Sources: Teton County Weed and Pest tracks acreage treated for invasive species.

Prevalence of invasive species

Description: While monitoring treatment of invasive species is useful, a better indicator of ecosystem health would be to track the prevalence of invasive species to give us a sense for how rapidly invasives are spreading and how effective mitigation is. This is a more difficult metric to measure and would require more resources. Rather than tracking invasives in the entire ecosystem, the percent of land occupied by noxious plant species could be tracked in a select number of parcels of highly valuable habitat as a proxy for the ecosystem. Monitored tracts should be varied and should include, at a minimum, riparian habitat, at least one site that is rarely visited by humans, and at least one site that is frequently visited by humans.

Sources: Teton County Weed and Pest tracks a number of early detection and rapid response (EDRR) locations, and monitors sites with no live invasive plants as well as those where invasive species have been eradicated. It may be possible to use this data to estimate acres affected by invasive species.

There is an appropriate collage of native plant habitats with rich species diversity and sufficient reproductive success to maintain healthy populations over time.

Habitat Loss and Gain

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.1.a: Protect focal species habitat based on relative critical value

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.4.a: Encourage non-development conservation of wildlife habitat

Description: Conducting an in-depth analysis of all native plants in the ecosystem would require a large, full-time team. Instead of deploying botanists on the ground, we can use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and aerial imagery to measure native plant habitats lost to development, degradation, or

the spread of invasive species, as well as habitat gained through habitat restoration. This will require hiring a GIS specialist to perform this work. This work could be combined with other indicators that require GIS. Staff recommends measuring both overall habitat loss and gain and *priority* habitat loss and gain. Priority habitat can be defined as land within the Natural Resource Overlay, in the riparian zone, or identified as focal species habitat. The percentage of habitat lost or gained could be categorized as high, medium, or low-quality habitat based on these designations.

Sources: This data is not currently available and would require hiring someone with a skill set in GIS analysis.

Habitat is ample, provides natural connectivity between intact patches, and is void of barriers to wildlife movement or ecological processes.

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.1.b: Protect wildlife from the impacts of development

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.1.c: Design for wildlife permeability

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.1.d: Limit human/wildlife conflicts

Fencing removed or improved

Description: Fences block wildlife movement and can ensnare, injury, maim, and kill wildlife. Removal of fencing when possible is recommended, but fences are also required in many areas to contain livestock or prevent bears from accessing attractants. The Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation (JHWF) uses teams of volunteers to remove fencing and improve it to enable wildlife movement. This is a performance measure that is useful in tracking progress made. However, it does not

Sources: JHWF tracks miles of fencing removed and miles of fence lowered annually.

Fencing remaining

Description: While we have performance indicators for fencing that is removed or improved, we do not have a tally of fencing or other barriers to wildlife movement that remain on the landscape. A measure of remaining barriers to wildlife movement would provide a better understanding of the health of our ecosystem.

Sources: This data is not currently available. It would require hiring someone to conduct an analysis and may be cost prohibitive to do on an annual basis.

Development and conservation in wildlife corridors

Description: Fencing is not the only barrier to wildlife movement. Development can also deter wildlife. This indicator could be tracked using current data on wildlife movements and GIS overlays to track development and conservation in areas of high wildlife movement. This metric would be complimentary to the Annual Indicator Report data on land developed and conserved and would focus it on areas of concern. It could potentially be combined with the habitat loss and gain indicator.

Sources: Wyoming Game & Fish has data on wildlife movements. This would require hiring a GIS specialist to develop overlays and monitor development.

Wildlife-vehicle collisions

Description: Wildlife-vehicle collision data can serve as a performance indicator of the effectiveness of measures our community is implementing to reduce collisions, including signs, speed limits, underpasses, and overpasses. Wildlife-vehicle collisions are also strongly correlated to weather. Deep snow drives ungulates and other species to roadways where it is easier to walk, leading to increases in collisions. Collision data is also highly dependent upon reporting. Finally, a decrease in collisions could indicate a decline in healthy wildlife populations. While collision data is an effective performance indicator, it may not be correlated to ecosystem health. Wildlife-vehicle collisions data is currently being tracked and is already included in the annual indicator report.

Sources: The Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation collects wildlife-vehicle collision data. Grand Teton National Park tracks wildlife vehicle collisions separately.

Human-wildlife conflicts

Description: This metric is highly dependent upon reporting and is not always correlated with healthy populations. However, it can be a useful measure of human behavior in our ecosystem and the effectiveness of regulations in the Town, County, and on public lands. Human-wildlife conflicts may also reflect environmental conditions in natural habitat; if food sources are unavailable, wildlife may come closer to humans seeking other food sources. Human-wildlife conflicts may also be indicative of increasing pressures on wildlife from recreation.

Sources: Wyoming Game and Fish collects this data.

Road and trail density

Description: Roads and trails impact the ecosystem through increased runoff and erosion, by breaking contiguous habitat into smaller patches, and by introducing human presence and noise to wildlife habitat. The area of human influence surrounding roads and trails can be measured as the percent of land area that is taken up by roads and trails plus a standard buffer zone, determined by the type of road or trail, that is likely to deter wildlife. This can be used to measure the size of minimally disturbed habitat patches that remain. Vehicle and pedestrian routes should be mapped separately because they affect wildlife differently. Humans hiking on a trail may make enough noise to disrupt wildlife and cause them to move away, but they are unlikely to cause physical injury to wildlife or to prevent wildlife from crossing the trail to mate. Vehicles are more likely to kill or maim wildlife and to prevent wildlife from crossing to mate, thereby limiting genetic diversity within the population and reducing species resilience. GIS data can be used to track the density of area that is taken up by roads and trails and changes in density and composition (paved, unpaved). Vehicle counts on main roads can also be tracked and compared to industry thresholds for the ability of wildlife to cross. Occasional analysis of the movements of wildlife with GPS collars can be used to determine the degree to which roads are barriers. To truly determine if wildlife cross roads to breed, a DNA analysis of hair samples would be required, which is not feasible on an annual basis.

Sources: This data is not currently available. Mapping road and trail density and the area of human influence may require contract work with an ecologist or GIS specialist.

Species counts

Description: A healthy ecosystem supports healthy populations of native wildlife species. However, conducting counts of every species in the ecosystem would be impossible. Also, outside influences such as hunting may determine species counts more than ecosystem health. An annual ecosystem health report may not be the best location for this data. If it is desired, species counts could focus on a few species that serve as a proxy for ecosystem health. These species should be species of concern, migratory ungulates, and migratory fish species such as native cutthroat trout.

Sources: Wyoming Game and Fish conducts some species counts.

Topsoil is retained and has the biological, chemical, and physical properties needed to support natural functions.

Soil health on agricultural lands

Description: A lab analysis of nutrients, pH, and soluble salts in soil samples would provide a sense of the ability of our soils to support biodiversity and provide for local food systems.

Sources: This data is not currently available. Collecting it would involve building relationships with private landowners and contracting the lab work to a soil scientist.

Land use efficiently supports natural systems, provides resilience to disturbance, and mitigates the impacts of climate change.

Most of these measures could be listed as a water quality indicator. However, these are directly related to the impact that land use has on water quality and may be more relevant as indicators of appropriate land use.

Water temperature, streamflow (also called “discharge”), and turbidity

Description: Aquatic species live within temperature ranges that they are adapted to. Changes in temperature caused by climate change, loss of shade, stormwater runoff, and/or a decrease in streamflow cause stress to aquatic species and may be the first indicator of a potential population collapse. Both daytime high temperatures and overnight temperatures, which provide buffering capacity for streams, should be monitored. Streamflow fluctuations can strand fish in channels that become disconnected and disrupt seasonal fluctuations aquatic species are adapted to. Both streamflow and the period of time over which changes (such as drawdowns) occur should be monitored. Turbidity is a measure of how cloudy a water body is with suspended sediment caused by stormwater runoff, erosion, and disruption of bottom sediments by natural or unnatural means. To measure temperature, streamflow, and turbidity, additional monitoring stations may need to be established at desired locations. While these parameters are included within the Draft WQMP recommendations, staff recommends more frequent measurements of these parameters to enable better adaptive management of our water resources.

Sources: The United States Geological Survey collects data on discharge and temperature at the Jackson Lake Dam, the Snake River below Flat Creek, and six other locations on the Snake River.

Storm sampling

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.2 c: Coordinate water quality monitoring with Teton Conservation District and other partners

Description: Stream samples immediately following a storm help determine what pollutants are entering our waterways as stormwater runoff.

Sources: This data is not currently available. The Teton Conservation District has expressed interest in doing post-storm water quality sampling in Flat Creek but has lacked staff capacity thus far.

Changes in impervious surface area and in the percent of stormwater that is treated

Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.2.b: Require filtration of runoff

Description: Impervious surface area increases runoff into our waterways. This can lead to increased water pollution from nutrients, hydrocarbons, heavy metals and more. Surges in runoff can also smother streambeds with sediment and alter stream channels by widening streams during storm events. Streams that are widened too much may become too shallow and warm for some species to survive or to thrive. Measuring changes in impervious surface through GIS tracking can be used to model increased runoff. Staff recommends also tracking the percentage of stormwater that is treated before entering streams and rivers, which mitigates the impact.

Sources: This data is not currently available. It would require hiring a GIS specialist record changes in impervious surface area and model runoff. Including a metric for percent of stormwater that is treated would require coordination with Public Works to understand the extent of their stormwater treatment systems.

Wildfire risk reduction

Description: It is not practical to measure resilience to wildfires as fires occur in our landscape, as many variables affect how fires spread. Instead, we can use a performance indicator measuring the number or percent of occupied structures managed to a standard for risk reduction, broken down into private lands and the different land management agencies.

Sources: Data for private lands could be gathered by the organizations that do mitigation work, including Teton County and the Teton Conservation District. Additional information is available periodically when public lands agencies report on wildfire mitigation measures.

Our community understands and values our unique water resources, values healthy land and is aware of the threats and impacts of soil degradation, values wildlife and recognizes its importance as a main driver of our economy, has the knowledge and tools to prevent the spread of invasive species, and is ecologically literate.

Values survey of residents, visitors, businesses and staff

Description: Humans are a part of our ecosystem and ecological literacy is critical to long-term ecosystem stewardship. Monitoring changes in the ecological literacy and values of residents, visitors, and staff will help us understand the greatest threat to ecosystem health – ourselves. Adaptive management techniques can be utilized to develop ecosystem stewardship education programs. Grand Teton National Park tracks visitation and conducts occasional visitor surveys. The Travel and Tourism Board is about to embark on a survey of resident and visitor sentiment towards Jackson as a Sustainable Destination and plans to conduct the survey every two years. To dig deeper into ecological literacy, Town staff would need to develop a values survey, which could be done with the support of partner organizations or interns. Staff recommends using data from the Travel and Tourism board to gauge resident and visitor sentiment, and to develop values surveys specific to businesses and governmental staff that can begin in two years. While most other indicators will be monitored at least annually, two years will provide time for an adequate turnover of respondents and will reduce the cost of implementing the surveys. If the Travel and Tourism Board resident survey does not provide enough data specific to the questions we have, we can create a resident survey with questions more specific to ecological literacy. To ensure that respondents adequately represent our resident population, a budget should be allocated to translate the survey into Spanish and recruit participation from our local immigrant population.

Sources: Travel and Tourism board resident and visitor surveys. Creation of a values survey by the Town or partner organizations.

Our community anticipates flood, drought, and natural disaster risk, has a resiliency plan, and implements it.

Resilience actions taken

Description: The focus groups recognized that to have a healthy ecosystem, we need to do more than monitor trends; we need to anticipate natural disasters and take steps to mitigate the ecological harm they can bring. While flood, drought, and other natural disasters are natural and often have ecological benefits, human caused climate change is accelerating the rate at which we experience natural disasters and amplifying the damage they cause. While our community's readiness is difficult to measure, a simple performance metric of preparedness actions implemented, once a readiness plan is created, can be used to measure this. While this would be a valuable exercise, it might fit better within the Town Sustainability Plan. Some elements of this could be included in a values survey.

Sources: N/A

Ecosystem Indicator Focus Group Participants

Name	Agency/ Organization	Air	Water	Wildlife	Vegetation	Land
Kevin Krasnow	Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance			1	1	1
Sandy Shruptine	JH Climate Action Collective			1	1	1
Frances Clark	JH Native Plants Society			1	1	1
Tim O'Donoghue	Riverwind Foundation	1	1	1	1	1
Carlyann Edwards	Riverwind Foundation	1	1	1	1	1
Leslie Steen	Trout Unlimited		1			
Grant Gallaher	Resident			1		1
Orion Hatch	Snake River Fund		1			1
Ben Williamson	NRCC			1		1
Renee Seidler	JH Wildlife Foundation			1		
Sharon Mader	NPCA			1		1
Amy McCarthy	Teton Raptor Center			1		
Bryan Bedrosian	Teton Raptor Center			1		
Lorna Miller	Resident			1		1
Brenda Ashworth	Teton County ISWR					1
Kate Gersh	JH Wildlife Foundation			1		1
Carlin Girard	Teton Conservation District	1	1	1	1	1
Scott Koshiba	Friends of Bridger-Teton			1		1
Carlie Ideker	Wyoming Wilderness Association					1
Samuel Singer	Wyoming Stargazing	1		1		
Sarah Dewey	GTNP			1		
Madison Traviss	Friends of Bridger-Teton					1
Amy King	Legacy Works Group		1	1		
Meghan Quinn	Protect our Water JH		1			
Chris Colligan	Teton County Public Works		1	1		1
Linda Merigiano	BTNF			1		1
David Lee	Teton Conservation District		1			
Jenn Newton	GTNP			1		
Matt Bambach	Protect our Water JH		1			
Morgan Graham	Teton Conservation District			1	1	1
Robb Sgroi	Teton Conservation District	1				1
Jill McMurray	BTNF	1	1			
Eric Cole	WY G&F			1	1	1
Brinda Ramanathan	BTNF	1				
Sara Budge	Department of Public Health	1	1			
Rachael Wheeler	Department of Public Health	1	1			
Mark Gagen	WY DEQ	1				
Erin Hutchins	WY DEQ air pollution monitor program sup	1				
Kole Stewart	BearWise JH		1	1		
Tom Segerstrom	Former director of TCD				1	1
Susan Marsh	Botanist					1
Erika Edmiston	District Supervisor Teton County Weed & Pest					1
Mark Daluge	TC weed & Pest					1
Trevor Bloom	Botanist (The Nature Conservancy)					1
James Wilder	USFS			1		
Total		11	14	25	13	22

STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date:	December 18, 2023	Meeting Title:	Town Council Workshop
Submitting Department:	Community Development	Presenter:	Tanya Anderson
Agenda Item:	Town Sustainability Plan – Community-wide Strategies	Public Comment	Yes

Purpose & Policy Considerations.

The purpose of this item is to get input and direction from Town Council on strategies for the Community portion of the Town Sustainability Plan.

Requested Action.

Staff requests that Council review the recommended strategies, as provided in this report, and provide direction for final strategies that will be presented in a written plan.

Recommendations.

Staff recommends that Council approve the recommended strategies.

Background.

The Town of Jackson has pursued leadership in sustainability initiatives since 2006. The Town's most recent sustainability goals are related to emissions reduction within our municipal operations. To date, these efforts have saved the Town of Jackson more than \$3 million in energy costs related to fuel, electricity, natural gas, and propane while avoiding more than 4,000 tons of CO₂ equivalent.

At the November 21, 2022, Town Council workshop, Council approved staff to move forward with a Hybrid Municipal and Community-wide Sustainability Plan that will help us to move towards our larger goal of ecosystem stewardship. A hybrid plan will include targets and initiatives for municipal operations within the Town of Jackson, as we have done in the past, as well as targets and initiatives in the greater community. While community-wide sustainability is a collective effort among all businesses, residents, and visitors, there are strategies the Town can pursue to incentivize or encourage sustainable actions. These may include ordinances and resolutions, incentive programs, infrastructure improvements, and education and outreach. Many strategies within the community-wide plan will be accomplished in partnership with or, in some cases, entirely by other organizations.

Town Council approved three priority areas for the Sustainability Plan: ecosystem stewardship, climate stewardship, and climate resiliency, and agreed that equity needs to be embedded within these priorities. Staff has modified the words to environmental quality, climate sustainability, and climate resilience for ease of understanding. Council approved the following overarching goals and guiding questions:

Environmental Quality Goals:

- Maintain healthy populations of all native species
- Preserve and enhance surface water and groundwater quality
- Reduce air pollutants produced in our community from 2022 levels

Climate Sustainability Goal:

- Net Zero by 2030

Climate Resilience Goal:

- Identify areas of vulnerability within our community and actively work to increase resilience

Guiding questions:

1. Does it promote a healthy environment, here and elsewhere?
2. Does it promote a healthy community?
3. Do the long-term benefits outweigh the economic impacts of implementation?
4. Is it equitable?

After receiving direction from Council, the Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator reviewed sustainability plans in other communities; attended classes offered by organizations such as Mountain Towns 2030, the Urban Sustainability Directors Network, and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI); met with multiple departments and department heads within the Town of Jackson; and met with community groups engaged in climate action, sustainability, and conservation. On August 16, 2023, staff hosted a community engagement workshop for community members to provide feedback and input. Additional feedback was gathered through a survey which received 72 responses. A Spanish language community engagement workshop was conducted on September 21, 2023, in partnership with Voices JH and supported by grant funding from the University of Wyoming and Western Water Associates. Ten interviews were also conducted with community members whose first language is neither English nor Spanish. With the support of two Americorps members from Teton Science Schools, four classrooms in three different schools were visited (grades 8-12) and students were able to share their priorities and ideas. All feedback was considered by staff and top strategies were reviewed by experts at ICLEI for viability.

Stakeholders expressed a lot of interest in climate resilience and ensuring that we are planning for future conditions, not just the conditions we experience today. They also expressed support for native plants, green infrastructure, absorbent landscapes, water conservation, and stronger protections for riparian zones. Incentives that encourage developers to go above and beyond the base requirements were popular, as were programs that educate contractors or help increase markets for green materials. Equity considerations were woven throughout discussions, along with an interest in providing support and resilience for the most vulnerable members of our community. There was a common thread among stakeholders desiring local government to provide more education, information, and support to residents and businesses interested in sustainable practices. The survey received a few comments from climate deniers and many comments from people who wanted less growth.

Analysis.

Staff presented ideas for municipal sustainability goals and targets at the September 18, 2023 Town Council Workshop. Based on feedback from Council, staff created four timeframes for implementation instead of three: immediate (1-2 years), short (1-4 years), medium (1-7 years), and long (1-12 years). Other recommendations from Council have been incorporated into the municipal goals and targets listed below, with any changes incorporated in bold.

Municipal Goals and Targets

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
Convert Town-owned trash receptacles to bear-resistant ones.	100% of Town-owned trash containers are bear-resistant.	Immediate
Create model native plant or pollinator gardens on Town property.	There is at least one model native plant or pollinator garden on Town property.	Immediate
Create Eco-Stewards program to catalyze citizen engagement in the protection of lands within Town.	An Eco-Stewards program is created, has active participants and at least two engagement events annually.	Short
Build for the future	-All new development using public funds will adhere to a higher standard of energy efficiency.	Short

	- All Town of Jackson capital projects will go through the <i>Envision Sustainable Infrastructure</i> rating system.	
Convert Town-owned lighting to dark-sky compliant lighting.	100% of Town-owned lighting is dark-sky compliant.	Medium
Increase percent of energy from renewable energy sources	-30% of the Town's energy for municipal operations will come from Town owned or supported renewable energy sources by 2030, including shares of community solar projects -Stretch Target of 35% of energy from Town-owned renewables by 2035.	Medium
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Town operations	Reduce emissions from Town operations 40% by 2030.	Medium
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Town fleets and START	-Reduce emissions from Town fleets 40% by 2030. -Reduce emissions from START fleets 20% by 2030.	Medium
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from staff commutes	Reduce GHG emissions from staff commutes 20% by 2030	Medium
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from waste generation	-Maintain a waste diversion rate >70% (stretch goal of 80%) -Reduce waste generation 20% by 2030 -Reduce emissions from office paper consumption 20%	Medium
Reduce water consumption on Town-owned properties	- Reduce water consumption in Town-owned facilities 20% by 2030 -Model water reuse in at least one Town facility - Reduce water used in irrigation on Town-owned properties 20% by 2030	Medium
Commit to purchasing carbon offsets for remaining emissions	-Develop a local carbon sequestration program -Purchase offsets for 100% of remaining emissions from town municipal operations, including buildings, fleets, and waste, starting in 2030. -Encourage purchase of offsets for staff business travel starting in 2025.	Medium
Reduce the gap between water produced and water billed, excluding non-revenue water.	The gap between water produced and water billed, excluding non-revenue water , will be less than 10%. -Stretch Target: The gap between water produced and water billed, excluding non-revenue water, will be less than 5%.	Long. See notes below regarding feasibility*
Reduce GHG emissions from Town-owned buildings leased to others	Reduce GHG emissions from Town buildings leased to others 20% by 2035.	Long
Maintain a clean electricity supply	-Continue to purchase GREEN power for 100% of Town electricity consumption. -Advocate for Lower Valley Energy to continue to supply a clean energy mix to our community.	Long
Convert Town-owned maintenance equipment to electric	Convert 100% of Town landscaping equipment to electric by 2035.	Long

*Floren Poliseo, Director of Public Works, looked into the feasibility of reducing water losses below 10%. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) states that average water loss is 16% and up to 75% of that is recoverable. However, each incremental reduction in water loss will have a greater cost, and the cost of getting below 10% loss may exceed the value or take resources away from other Council priorities. Staff recommends keeping the target at 10% and setting a stretch target of 5%. Also, because there are always some authorized but unbilled water uses, such as flushing fire hydrants, firefighting, and flow and pressure testing, we added the words “excluding non-revenue water” to the strategy for clarification. Our intention is not to reduce those authorized uses.

Additional suggestions and comments by Town Council members that are in the process of being added, considered, or implemented:

- Ensure that the Sustainability Plan is nestled under the umbrella of Ecosystem Stewardship, as it is in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Add a statement acknowledging water quality is a work in progress.
- Measure from the baseline years (FY06 and FY10) when possible. New goals can be measured from the year in which data is first collected.
- Council expressed interest in better communication through our website and in exploring real time monitoring for building energy consumption and solar production that could be displayed on our website.
 - Council requested information on how much traffic the TCAP dashboard gets before investing. LegacyWorks Group shared that the TCAP dashboard currently sees about 50 views per month. However, there has not been any advertising of the site and it is only being updated annually. A well-publicized dashboard with more frequent inputs would generate greater traffic.
- Councilwoman Sell Chambers is interested in exploring strategies to reduce the use of disposable plastic bottles. This can be considered in the community-wide strategies.
- Councilmember Rooks encouraged staff to investigate small scale wind energy potential. There is some data on local small scale wind energy that does not show a strong cost benefit. Staff recommends considering all forms of renewable energy and storage, and conducting feasibility studies when there are advances in technology.

Key Question #1: Are Council’s recommendations adequately captured in the revised internal sustainability strategies?

Key Question #2: Does Council support keeping the water loss goal at 10% and adding a stretch goal?

While internal municipal strategies serve to lead by example, community strategies leverage the Town’s influence to create positive change. The Sustainability Plan will have three main priorities: Climate Stewardship, Climate Resilience, and Environmental Quality. Many strategies address more than one of these priorities. Rather than organize the plan by these priorities, staff proposes organizing the plan by sector, or area of focus, and including strategies that mitigate the impacts of climate change, improve the conditions of our environment, and promote resilience within every sector. Staff proposes the following areas of focus: energy, nature-based solutions, the built environment, healthy watershed, mobility, and circularity. Each of these areas of focus is defined below. While we set clear targets for our municipal goals, setting science-based targets for the community is a bit more complicated. Staff will focus on potential community strategies that support our overarching goals in this report. Appropriate targets will be set later. Chapter two of the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan (Comprehensive Plan) set a goal to emit less greenhouse gases than we did in 2012; in 2022, community-wide emissions were approximately 30% higher than they were in 2012. Thus, an overarching climate sustainability community-wide target can be to reduce emissions 30%.

Timelines for community strategies are identical to the timelines for municipal goals and strategies: immediate (1-2 years), short (1-4 years), medium (1-7 years), and long (1-12 years). In every area of focus, strategies will need a more thorough evaluation before they can be implemented. All strategies should be viewed as suggestions for consideration; some may be discarded after further evaluation, and new strategies may arise. The purpose of this report is to gauge if

Council is supportive of the general direction of the recommended strategies and would like staff to further evaluate their feasibility. Support for proposed strategies directs staff to continue working on them but does not infer approval for implementation.

Energy

The sources of the energy we use to power our community has a large influence on our community's emissions, our resilience, and our health. The primary sources of energy in our community are electricity and natural gas. Propane, wood-burning stoves, and gasoline or diesel generators are also common. While our electricity purchased by Lower Valley Energy is from the Bonneville Power Administration, which has a 95% clean energy portfolio, the electricity we receive in the winter, when solar and hydroelectric energy production is at its lowest and our community's consumption is at its highest, includes a higher percentage of fossil fuel-based energy sources. Reducing the environmental and health impact of energy use will require wide ranging strategies, including increasing on-site and community renewable energy generation, advocating for clean electricity, encouraging the purchase of green power, and reducing electricity consumption during the seasons and times of day when it is most likely to come from fossil fuels. We must also take measures to ensure that the siting of renewable energy projects do not damage or impede wildlife habitat, migration corridors or flight paths, or have other detrimental environmental impacts.

Principle 2.1 of the Comprehensive Plan is to reduce consumption of non-renewable energy. Policies include shifting community energy consumption behavior, encouraging energy conservation through energy pricing, increasing local use and generation of renewable energy, and allowing and encouraging onsite renewable energy generation. One of the strategies outlined in the Comprehensive Plan is to create an emissions reduction and climate action plan.

For the purposes of this sustainability plan, staff recommends using the policy goals outlined in the Comprehensive Plan and adding the following goals: Reduce electricity consumption during peak hours, encourage investment in Green Power, ensure the availability of a clean energy supply, and balance the need for renewable energy with the ecosystem values in our community. Staff proposes the following strategies and timelines, with connections to the comprehensive plan notes in italics.

Timeline	Strategy
Immediate	Support the development of community renewable energy projects through grant writing support, incentives, budget allocations, education, and other means
Immediate	Develop standards to ensure that renewable energy projects are sited in ways that minimize impacts to wildlife migrations, critical habitat, flight patterns, and winter habitat.
Short	Encourage Lower Valley Energy (LVE) to move to an opt-out system rather than an opt-in system for their green power program
Short	Evaluate and update Building Codes and Land Development Regulations to support and incentivize renewable energy generation (<i>Comp plan strategy 2.1.S.7</i>) for building or districts through regulations, streamlining processes, or other means.
Short	Encourage Homeowner Associations (HOAs) to update private Codes, Covenants & Restrictions (CC&Rs) that prohibit on-site renewable energy generation and other sustainable practices (<i>strategy 2.1.S.6</i>)
Medium	Consider upgrading to public electric vehicle charging stations that incentivize use during off-peak hours
Medium	Encourage the adoption of energy pricing that incentivizes conservation through sliding scale energy pricing where unit cost increases with total energy consumption (<i>strategy 2.1.S.5</i>) and through pricing signals that reduce energy consumption during peak hours.
Medium	Encourage the state legislature to grow the renewable energy economy, and for LVE to increase the percent of renewable energy in their portfolio
Long	Develop an energy supply resiliency plan

Long	Research feasibility of renewable energy sources, including wind energy, geothermal, hydroelectric micro-turbine installations in water lines, energy storage, and emerging technologies
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Key Question #3: Does Council generally support the proposed energy strategies?

Nature-based solutions

Our natural ecosystem is the most resilient and cost-effective infrastructure we have. The World Bank defines nature-based solutions as *actions to protect, sustainably manage, or restore natural ecosystem that address societal challenges such as climate change, human health, food and water security, and disaster risk reduction effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits*. Nature-based solutions can help our community protect the assets we value while increasing our resilience to heat, drought, floods, and other natural disasters that are predicted to become more likely due to climate change.

Staff recommends setting the following community goals: encourage landscaping with native plants, support healthy populations of minifauna, encourage absorbent landscapes and runoff recapture, and to develop an ethos of ecosystem stewardship. Nature-based solutions are already embedded within the Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan and are likely to be included in the Town of Jackson Stormwater Management Program. Staff proposes the following nature-based solutions strategies and timelines be included in the Town Sustainability Plan:

Timeline	Strategy
Immediate	Facilitate community engagement in pollinator protection through pollinator week/month celebrations and the creation of a pollinator pathway
Short	Pursue Bee City USA certification
Short	Encourage or require green infrastructure in new construction
Medium	Protect riparian areas through setbacks, no mow zones, and native vegetation requirements
Medium	Incentivize or require a higher percentage of landscaping with native plants
Medium	Consider a resolution granting rights to nature
Long	Daylight sections of Cache Creek to restore ecological integrity
Long	Promote tree planting to produce shade in developed areas and along streambanks as appropriate to provide shading and habitat, and to absorb carbon dioxide
Long	Develop a local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Key Question #4: Does Council generally support the proposed nature-based solutions strategies?

The Built Environment

The Built Environment refers to commercial and residential buildings and the infrastructure that supports them. It includes roads, bridges, water and sewer systems, and public utilities. Parks and green space are a part of the built environment as well.

The standard to which buildings and infrastructure are constructed determines their carbon emissions. Efficient design can reduce the lifetime emissions of heating, cooling, lighting, and technology. Thoughtful design can also reduce *embodied carbon*, the amount of GHG emissions associated with upstream stages of a product's life, including extraction, production, transport, and manufacturing. How and where buildings and infrastructure are constructed also determines how resilient they will be in heat, cold, wildfires and floods. Finally, buildings, infrastructure, and green space all influence stormwater runoff and water quality, wildlife permeability, and levels of toxicity in our community.

Our goals should be to increase energy efficiency, reduce embodied carbon, increase resiliency, support green workforce development and markets for sustainable materials, improve wildlife permeability, improve human/wildlife coexistence, and reduce light pollution. Staff propose the following strategies for the built environment; aspects of the built environment related to water quality will be in the healthy watershed section.

Timeline	Strategy
Immediate	Commit to reviewing and adopting the latest International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC) within one year of their release and consider adopting IECC stretch codes
Immediate	Consider adoption of a voluntary energy conservation stretch code with incentives for developers such as a building permit fee waiver/reimbursement, streamlined review, or variances for height, density, parking, etc.
Immediate	Consider reduction of the maximum single-family home size, reduce barriers to constructing smaller homes, and require higher energy efficiency standards for larger homes
Short	Apply for International Dark Sky Community certification, in coordination with Teton County
Short	Prioritize funding for energy efficiency upgrades for deed-restricted housing, long-term rentals, and low-income homeowners, including incentive programs for landlords and tenants, technical support for federal tax rebates, and “pay as you save” financing
Short	Consider Requiring disclosure of energy efficiency at point of residential and commercial sale
Short	Review LDRs to address wildlife permeability and climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience as it relates to site development, vegetation, renewable energy installations, efficient water use, etc. Incorporate climate projections into standards rather than current conditions
Short	Educate builders, residents and businesses about dark sky lighting and bird-friendly windows
Medium	Expand bear conflict zone incrementally to include the entire town by 2030
Medium	Consider Protections for highly used wildlife corridors from development
Medium	Develop strategies to reduce energy used to heat outdoor spaces
Medium	Consider requiring energy efficiency upgrades at point of residential and commercial sale
Medium	Support the development and promotion of training for local builders to ensure that our workforce has the skills needed to build to code and beyond
Medium	Conduct vulnerability assessment to inform and prioritize resilience measures
Medium	Designate or develop resilience hubs to provide shelter for our community from extreme heat, wildfire smoke, flooding, or other climate change induced conditions
Medium	Incentivize materials with low embodied carbon (fly ash in concrete, etc.) to help grow local market
Long	Encourage and incentivize conversion of non-compliant lighting to dark-sky lighting
Long	Consider Adopting a bird-friendly window ordinance

Key Question #5: Does Council generally support the proposed build environment strategies?

Mobility

Traffic and parking are frequent discussion topics in our community, in part because we have developed our community around vehicles. However, people don’t need a car for every trip; they need mobility options. Developing our community around multi-modal mobility options reduces traffic congestion, air pollution, GHG emissions, and collisions. Multi-modal transportation options, and the development patterns to support them, also create a vibrant, healthy community. We already have an Integrated Transportation Plan (ITP); to avoid redundancy, the Sustainability Plan will not set specific goals or strategies related to pathways and transit improvements, though those are critical. The strategies below amplify the goals and strategies of the ITP while addressing gaps related to emissions reduction. The

Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator has met with Regional Transportation Planning Administrator, Charlotte Frei, and will continue to collaborate on transportation strategies.

Timeline	Strategies
Immediate	Update parking management program for downtown core
Immediate	Pilot community-wide carshare and bikeshare program with low-emission vehicles
Immediate	Prioritize access to multi-modal mobility when considering new housing developments
Immediate	Implement Travel Demand Management strategies and programs in the ITP
Short	Consider adding a clause in government RFPs and RFQs requiring or adding points for low emissions vehicles, use of alternative fuels, and other climate mitigation actions
Short	Consider incentivizing efficiency of taxis and other fleet vehicles through business permitting process
Short	Consider prioritizing car-free and car-light applications in affordable and workforce housing lotteries
Short	Encourage businesses to offer transit passes, bike/car share memberships, or stipends in lieu of parking
Short	Work with the Travel and Tourism Board and Destination Stewardship Council to amplify car-free travel options for visitors
Medium	Expand park-and-ride facilities and mobility hubs
Medium	Consider consolidating waste pickup routes through bidding process to avoid multiple waste haulers driving large, noisy, high emission vehicles on the same routes
Long	Improve walkability and bikeability in the downtown core
Long	Create community EV plan to expand availability of community EV charging
Long	Consider centralized delivery hub to reduce truck traffic through town

Key Question #6: Does Council generally support the proposed mobility strategies?

Healthy watershed

The Snake River and its tributaries are the lifeblood of our community. These waterways provide for the mental, physical, and spiritual health of residents and visitors alike. As the headwaters of the Snake River, it is our community's responsibility to protect these waters by maintaining the health of the lands that drain into them, the watershed.

Our water quality goals should be audacious. A summary of desired outcomes for our surface waters by ecosystem health indicator water quality stakeholders is: *Our surface waters will be unimpaired, resilient, support healthy populations of cold-water fish, and be valued by our community.* To achieve this outcome, we need to restore riparian habitat to support biodiversity, reduce pollution and sedimentation and proactively prevent emerging pollutants, protect wildlife habitat along waterways, remove barriers to fish movement, and ensure that there is adequate flow in our rivers and streams to maintain cold waters and healthy fish populations. Additionally, we should reduce water consumption to reduce energy used in water production and help our community be more resilient to drought.

A lot of work is underway in our community to improve our water quality. Teton County is nearing the end of a two-year process to draft a Water Quality Master Plan. The Town of Jackson is currently working on a Stormwater Management Program. The newly formed Snake River Headwaters Watershed Group is bringing together diverse stakeholders to work together to find solutions for water resource issues in our community. With so many projects underway, it is difficult to know what belongs in the sustainability plan and what should be addressed by other groups or plans. The strategies below will attempt to either fill water quality gaps that are not being addressed by other initiatives or to elevate strategies within the other initiatives that need the Town's support to succeed. Strategies related to the wastewater

treatment plant are above and beyond the scope of the Town Sustainability Plan and will not be included; strategies related to reducing water use and the energy required to produce water will. This section may need to be reviewed and edited after the Town's Stormwater Management Program is created if there is repetition or if additional gaps emerge. The Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator has worked closely with Public Works staff to identify these areas of overlap and will continue to hone these strategies as the other plans near completion.

Timeline	Strategies
Immediate	Create and implement water conservation campaign
Immediate	Create emerging pollutant education campaign (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), microplastics, etc.)
Short	Incentivize and encourage water conservation and efficiency
Short	Create drought management plan or water conservation ordinance that determines action steps taken and water use restrictions during different levels of drought.
Short	Consider requiring fluoro-free ski wax be sold and used in local shops
Short	Consider Prohibiting snow storage near bodies of water
Medium	Consider updating LDRs to encourage water conservation, permeable surfaces, runoff recapture and reuse, and stream buffer zones
Medium	Consider requiring onsite stormwater management and treatment in new development
Medium	Consider User Explorer tool for conservation messaging in water bills
Medium	Address large sources of sedimentation entering Flat Creek
Medium	Increase bank shading along streams
Medium	Encourage, support, and incentivize riparian restoration and streambank stabilization
Long	Support beautification of and access to Flat Creek north of Karns Meadow
Long	Host community celebration of Flat Creek
Long	Advocate for adequate flow from the Jackson Lake Dam

Key Question #7: Does Council generally support the proposed healthy watershed strategies?

Circularity

The Circularity sector focuses on materials management from procurement through disposal. It expands upon the reduce, reuse, recycle mantra, which is embedded within a linear model of producing, consuming, and discarding, and challenges us to rethink that system and replace it with one that is recyclable, sharable, and regenerative. Input, waste, and emissions are minimized, closed-loop systems exist locally, and small businesses, including farms and ranches, are viable. Circularity decouples economic development from resource consumption and environmental degradation, and encourages economies that are productive without being extractive, and where goods and services are exchanged and not wasted. While the strategies here still rely on reducing and recycling, reframing this section as circularity reminds use to rethink systems and focus on front-end reduction, regeneration, and local reuse and recovery over recycling. Many suggested strategies align with Teton County Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling's Road to Zero Waste Plan. Strategies and timelines can be edited if new goals emerge from their forthcoming strategic planning session.

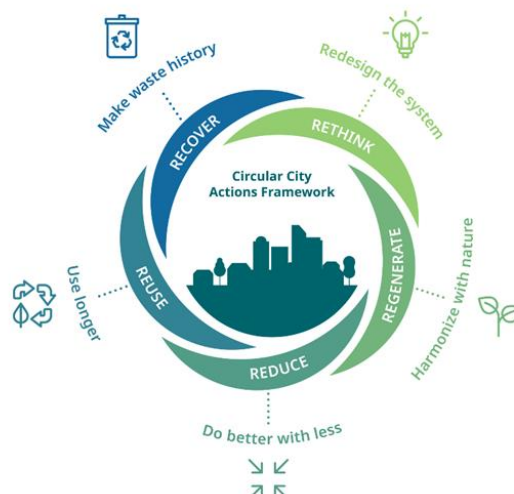


Image credit: [Circular City Action Framework](#), ICLEI

Timeline	Strategies
Immediate	Implement Pay As You Throw Pricing
Immediate	Update events form to encourage or require waste reduction and recycling
Immediate	Consider ordinance requiring reusable foodware for dine-in experiences, prohibiting foodware containing expanded polystyrene or PFAS, and making accessories (straws, condiments) available only upon request
Immediate	Consider ordinance requiring commercial recycling of beverage containers (cans and bottles) for alcoholic beverage service permit holders
Short	Consider requiring commercial recycling of cardboard
Short	Consider requiring equal space for trash and diversion at construction sites
Short	Consider discontinuation of burn week as a part of spring and fall clean up
Medium	Consider creating an incentive or requirement for hotels to reduce single use toiletries
Medium	Consider local restrictions on small single-use plastic water bottles
Medium	Consider encouraging reusables through surcharges on beverage cups and food containers or through a locally branded reusable cup
Medium	Consider bear-resistant food waste separation and collection for restaurants
Medium	Consider requiring a Sustainable Deconstruction Plan prior to applying for a deconstruction permit with a diversion requirement or goal

Key Question #8: Does Council generally support the proposed circularity strategies?

Communication

Regardless of sectors, goals, and strategies, it is important to have a plan for monitoring progress and communicating that progress transparently. Staff proposes the following goals related to monitoring and communication.

Timeline	Strategy
Immediate	Complete a Local Government Operations (LGO) and Community-wide GHG inventories within one year of adoption
Immediate	Provide annual progress reports to Council

Immediate	Track climate and sustainability metrics accurately and transparently for the community
Immediate	Communicate with Town staff about relevant sustainability priorities or projects at least quarterly
Immediate	Inform the public about relevant sustainability priorities or projects at least quarterly
Medium	Complete a full GHG inventory every five years

Key Question #9: Does Council generally support the proposed sustainability plan communication strategies?

Next steps

After staff receives input and direction from Council, they will take the following steps:

1. Draft a hybrid municipal/community sustainability plan
2. Solicit feedback on the draft
3. Solicit a graphic designer to create visuals for the plan
4. Present a final plan to Council for approval along with a draft implementation plan for the first two years.

Possible Alternatives.

Council may accept, reject, or recommend changes to any of the potential strategies outlined in this report.

Comprehensive Plan & Priority Alignment.

Principle 1.1—Maintain healthy populations of all native species.

For future generations to enjoy the ecosystem that exists today the community must manage our impacts to wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wildlife movement corridors on private and public land. The prevalence of wildlife that is central to our ecological, social, and economic character requires an intact ecosystem that supports all native species. Therefore, efforts to protect wildlife must extend to all native species.

Principle 1.2 – Preserve and enhance surface water and groundwater quality.

Clean water is one of the most basic requirements of a healthy ecosystem and community. Protecting the water quality of Jackson and Teton County is essential to the ecosystem and scenic beauty that residents and visitors enjoy. In addition, the public has the right to clean, affordable drinking water. Stewardship of surface water bodies of all sizes, the Snake River Sole Source Aquifer, wetlands, riparian areas, and groundwater, is vital to sustaining healthy populations of native species and for the health and safety of the human community. Preservation of water quality includes water features, from small creeks to large systems, including the Snake River Sole Source Aquifer, due to its importance as the community's water source. Among other measures, it is integral to minimize pollution from wastewater and stormwater that cause water quality impairment and threaten overall ecosystem health.

Policy 1.3.d Maintain dark night skies

The prominence of nature over the built environment should extend beyond daytime viewsheds. The lighting of individual developments cumulatively impacts the ability to see dark and starry night skies. Although illumination is required for public safety, especially along pedestrian corridors, non-essential lighting should be limited, and all lighting will be designed to meet dark skies best practices. Existing development will also be encouraged to implement best practices.

Principle 2.1 – Reduce energy consumption of non-renewable energy

To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change, the community should reduce its consumption of energy from non-renewable sources. The Town and County will lead by example and encourage reductions in energy demand and the use of renewable energy sources. However, it is the daily responsibility of the entire community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions whether for climate, financial or other reasons.

Principle 2.2 Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through land use

Land use patterns have a great effect on the community's overall energy consumption and should be designed with energy efficiency in mind. Complete Neighborhoods require less energy consumption for travel within and around the

community; and compact mixed-use infill and redevelopment requires less energy in the provision of services and infrastructure.

Principle 2.3 – Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through transportation

Transportation accounts for approximately 80% of the total carbon emissions in the community and should be a focus of the community's efforts to reduce energy consumption. Reducing fuels consumed for transportation and using renewable fuels has the greatest potential to reduce the community's overall carbon emissions and consumption of non-renewable resources.

Principle 2.4 – Increase energy efficiency in buildings

It is the community's goal to achieve carbon neutral buildings by 2030. Increasing the energy efficiency of buildings and reducing the energy used for the construction of buildings will greatly increase the community's energy conservation efforts, as the construction and operation of buildings accounts for close to 15% of energy use in Jackson and Teton County. Publicly funded construction projects will lead by example in implementing this policy, and incentives will be provided to reduce the energy demand of new and existing private buildings.

Principle 2.5 – Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through waste management and water conservation

The community will reduce the amount of energy required to distribute, clean, and dispose of water and waste through conservation efforts. Our current water consumption and waste management practices will have long-term adverse impacts on the ecosystem and the community's energy demand if conservation measures are not pursued.

Principle 7.1 – Meet future transportation demand with walk, bike, carpool, transit and micro-mobility infrastructure

If the fastest way to travel around the community and region is by walking, biking, carpooling or taking transit, residents, and visitors will move in a way that benefits the environment, their pocketbook, and their health. To achieve this goal, capital investment in transportation must be focused on walking, biking, carpooling, and transit. Single occupancy vehicle solutions have the most significant environmental footprint while providing transportation access to a limited portion of the population. Increasingly, the transportation network will be an interconnection of walking, biking, carpool and transit infrastructure that makes the single-occupancy vehicle the least convenient mode of travel.

Principle 7.2 – Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles from 2012 levels

One of the biggest threats to the health of the ecosystem is climate change. The most significant local contributor to greenhouse gas emissions is surface transportation – the cars, trucks, and buses we use to travel into, within, and out of the community. As stewards of the ecosystem, we will manage our transportation to reduce emissions. Cleaner vehicles, fewer trips, and trips that move more people will be prioritized over strategies focused on reducing congestion.

Principle 9.3 – Anticipate future issues and pioneer innovative solutions

Existing implementation tools will not be enough to fully achieve the community's aspirational goals. We have identified many tools that will move the community toward its Vision. We have also purposefully set the Vision out of reach of conventional approaches to challenge ourselves to explore the adjacent possible and reset the leading edge. To find new solutions, we will have to be willing to analyze and perhaps pilot atypical approaches that do not have historical precedent and may not yield tangible process.

Fiscal Impact.

Some of the recommended strategies will require financial investment. Others may require an upfront cost but will reduce expenses such as energy and fuel costs. Currently, there is local, regional, and federal grant funding available for many of the strategies outlined. Additionally, the elective pay option for governments can provide rebates for qualifying purchases. The combination of these funding opportunities makes pursuing renewable energy installations, energy efficiency upgrades, and fleet upgrades in the next several years more cost effective than if capital improvements and vehicle purchases are delayed.

Staff Impact.

20% of the Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator's job description, or approximately 357 hours annually, is dedicated to the Town Sustainability Plan. Research, community engagement, drafting the plan, and working with Town staff to

implement the plan will use the full allotment. Implementation of the Sustainability Plan will require coordination with other departments and will vary greatly depending on the strategy.

Attachments or Links.

English Community Engagement Workshop Outcomes

Spanish Community Engagement Workshop Report authored by Voices JH

Suggested Motion. *Council always has the option to adopt, approve with conditions, continue, or deny items.*

I move to direct staff to prepare a Town Sustainability Plan based upon the discussion today and to present that plan for Council consideration at a future Town Council meeting.

Town Sustainability Plan Community Engagement Workshop Outcomes

On August 16, 2023, an English language community engagement session regarding the Town Sustainability Plan was held at the Teton County Library. Information was available for Spanish speakers, though none attended. After a brief presentation, attendees were asked to join a table to discuss one of the following elements: nature-based solutions, healthy watershed, mobility, energy efficiency and the built environment, and resilience. After a 30-minute discussion at tables, one representative from each table shared ideas from their table with the larger group. These ideas were recorded on large pads of paper, and attendees were encouraged to walk the room and apply stickers to ideas that resonated with them. Ideas and themes that emerged are recorded below. Ideas that seemed to resonate with multiple people are in bold.

Nature-based solutions:

1. Native landscaping
 - a. Incentive programs for native plants – currently being done by Teton Conservation District (TCD).
 - b. Demonstration landscapes
 - c. Work with Teton Plants and TCD to amplify native plant work.
 - d. **Develop demand and supply for native plants, such as a forum to get landscapers and nurseries together with outside experts to show how it has been done.**
 - e. **An LDR requiring a percentage of native plants, which could be combined with an incentive program.**
2. Pollinator gardens
 - a. This idea resonated with the table. They pointed out that pollinator gardens have many other benefits besides pollinators. They sequester carbon in the soil, retain runoff, and benefit other species of wildlife such as birds.
 - b. Pollinator pathways could be a way to provide an ecological benefit to current pathway system.
3. Absorbent landscapes
 - a. Support for a requirement for development to incorporate absorbent landscapes or retain stormwater runoff. The group suggested it doesn't have to be plants; it could also be gravel or other pervious surfaces.
 - b. Recommended more education programs, demonstration landscapes, and incentive programs.
 - c. **Suggested retaining trees during construction and not tearing down trees unless they are dangerous.**

Healthy Watershed:

1. Water reuse such as greywater reuse. 90 Virginian Ln development and northern south park could be good pilot/examples at subdivision scale. This could be dwelling unit-based technologies, or a parallel water pipe system that utilizes treated effluent from the wastewater treatment plant for irrigation.
2. **Include water & wastewater infrastructure in capital planning, and use Envision program to improve the sustainability of our capital program.**

3. Increased permeability requirements for new developments and retrofit for existing development and town streets.
 - a. Crossover with nature-based solutions
4. Xeriscaping = less water, less fertilizer
5. **Use 90 Virginian Ln Housing Development and Northern South Park as a model for water reuse (ref. #1 above) and permeability (#3).**
6. LDRs to require greater buffer zone and identify alternate solutions to reduce impacts from existing adjacent lots that would be more fully encumbered by the buffer.
7. Require native plantings along water's edge with distance/width of plantings
8. Incentive programs, to compliment stricter LDRs and other development requirements mentioned above (permeability, buffers, landscaping, etc.)
9. **Project requirement for town and private developments to incorporate green infrastructure and nature-based solutions (rain gardens, etc.) first.**

Mobility:

- Solar-powered shuttle (in-town)
- EV charging stations in town lots – multi-use parking areas
 - Behavior Change Campaign for transportation (Remember: Be Today's Solution)
- Develop a community EV plan (similar to SDMP/comp plan)
- HOV lanes on Hwy 22
- Consider transportation mitigation – Fee? Stipend? Partnerships?
- E-bike/Bike Mitigation fee
 - Better mobility hub at the village
 - Vehicle miles traveled fees
- Mobility hubs
- Incentive for charging stations for EVs/ Ebikes at private businesses
- Parking management: Perhaps more vertical structures or underground parking
- **Close Town Square Roads – pedestrian only area near parking at Home Ranch Lot**
- START on demand – to Idaho Falls (appointments (medical, etc)).

Energy Efficiency and the built environment:

- New buildings:
 - Adopt a stretch code that is more than just the base code.
 - **Provide technical support for local developers.** Construction funds for advanced measures (energy efficiency, renewables, etc).
 - Permitting priority for energy efficiency/ renewable energy/exceeding code
- Existing buildings:
 - Increase high user group engagement/target highest user groups
 - Target multi-family homes, older stock, manufactured and mobile homes
 - Appliance replacement for renters
 - Refrigerator, heat pump hot water heater, Thermostats
 - Target property tax relief applicants
 - Property owner
 - More support in general for retrofits

- Consider benchmarking for larger buildings
 - Moving from engagement to action with all audiences.
 - Peer to peer bill analysis
- Town facilities:
 - **Town should have higher standards for our facilities, should lead by example and use a 3rd party certification.**
- Reduce barriers to efficiency retrofits (administration, technical, funds)
- **Waste reduction and recycling**
- Education
 - Value of and availability of efficient choices
 - Consumers
 - **Contractors**
 - Businesses
- Dark Skies
 - Town should prioritize upgrading Town-owned lighting. We should prioritize areas with proximity to wildlife habitat first, then impacted residential areas.
 - We can encourage homeowners and businesses to upgrade their lighting through an energy efficiency/dark sky rebate (enhanced rebates through a partner)
 - We should consider pursuing a Dark Sky Community designation.

Resilience:

- Conduct vulnerability Assessment to inform and prioritize resilience measures
- Apply resiliency standards to affordable housing construction
- **Encourage more efficient waste pickup (consolidation of hauler routes) and ways to encourage people to reduce their own waste**
- **Awareness campaigns for locals and visitors. Make folks know sustainability is important to this town.**
- **Incorporate climate projections into building codes and standards in Jackson. (Current codes and standards are backwards looking – we need to be building for the future).**
- **Resilience hubs designed for all hazards – not just climate (eg. Earthquake & grid outages)**
 - Off grid with backup power and emergency water and medical supplies.

Town of Jackson Sustainability Plan Report



PREPARED FOR TOWN OF JACKSON

NOVEMBER 2023

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Community Context

Voices JH partners with community organizations to empower immigrant communities through their active engagement in local decision-making processes. Our efforts center culturally sensitive event planning and discussions in participants' native languages. We actively involve immigrant families, enabling them to directly express their experience, needs and voice to local stakeholders.

Town of Jackson Sustainability Plan

The Town of Jackson's Sustainability Plan focus group and interviews were intended to collect input from immigrant families to the Town of Jackson's climate action and climate resilience plan in 2023. Voices JH conducted a Spanish speaking focus group and a series of interviews with Eastern European community members to ensure that the plan incorporates their specific needs and experiences.



Methodology

Focus group

On Thursday, September 21st, Voices JH conducted a two hour Spanish language focus group specifically tailored for Latine families. Participants were separated into four groups, each to cover one topic amongst housing, wildlife, water, and transportation. The focus group included childcare, dinner, and three raffles. We were delighted to have a total of 28 participants.

Interviews

Interviews with 10 Eastern European immigrants were conducted before September 21, 2023, and each interview had a duration of approximately one hour. In appreciation for their participation, participants received a gift card.

Questions & Analysis

The focus group and interview questions revolved around three primary themes. The first theme delved into participants' experiences living in and around Jackson, exploring what they value about the area and the challenges, risks, or problems they encounter as residents. The second set of questions focused on the challenges, risks, or problems participants anticipated the community would face due to climate change. The third set of questions centered on strategies that can be implemented as a community to address housing, water, transportation, and wildlife-related challenges.

To analyze the data collected from these discussions, a thematic coding approach was applied.

Participants

All Latine and Eastern European participants share the same sentiments of what they value, find challenging, and worry about living in or near Jackson.

Below is what participants value about living in or near Jackson. Prominent topics are highlighted in bold in no particular order.

Latine

is the gender neutral term for Latino or Latina

- **Nature - breathtaking landscapes and wildlife**
- **Safety - people expressed feeling a sense of tranquility**
- **Economy - abundant employment opportunities & strong entrepreneurial opportunities**
- Transportation - well-maintained roads, Free public transit
- Education - great education for the children
- Strong sense of community - people are friendly and willing to help
- Cleanliness

Below are what participants find challenging about living in or near Jackson. Prominent topics are highlighted in bold in no particular order.

- **Winter- long winter seasons make transportation difficult with slippery roads and to those who do not have a car and the bus system is not near**
- **High cost of living- high rents, unaffordable housing market, expensive health care system, expensive food, and no available spaces to live complicates living**
- **Transportation- it is difficult to obtain a drivers license, there are long commuting hours, and traffic is high in the summer**
- **Career growth- there is a lack of opportunities for career growth and education opportunities**
- Language- English literacy keep individuals from opportunities
- Substance use- youth substance use is an issue
- Wages remain unchanged

Most Latine and Eastern European participants also share similar views on the challenges, risks, or problems the community might face due to climate change. Below are presented themes throughout the focus groups and interviews

Impacted Seasons

Participants are concerned that increasing temperatures can lead to droughts, forest fires, heatwaves, and a decrease in snowfall. For example, one participant shared, "Due to climate change, I believe our community is at risk for more wildfires as the climate changes due to Earth's warming." Another potential challenge could be increased flooding and harsh winter conditions if climate change were to prolong the winter season.

Population change

Participants are concerned that population growth will affect the health of local flora and fauna. One participant noted that Jackson has been attracting an increasing number of residents, raising a concern of wildlife migration from overpopulation. Furthermore, participants discussed water pollution and increased carbon dioxide emissions from increased population, particularly during the tourist season. Lastly, there was a discussion about overpopulation potentially driving up the cost of living in Jackson. Participants expressed worries that families and individuals might relocate to more distant surrounding areas like Bondurant and Thayne, paralleling the trend in current migrating towns such as Driggs, Victor, and Alpine.

Culture of Care

Participants expressed concerns about potential disunity in the community regarding climate change, which they felt might lead to poor recycling habits and a lack of care for nature. In one focus group, it was emphasized that education should be central to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy the beauty of Jackson.

Housing and Energy Efficiency

Participants were assigned to address the cost of living related to energy expenses and develop strategies for implementing energy-efficient home improvements to reduce these costs and increase resiliency.

All Latine and Eastern European participants expressed interest in making energy-efficient home improvements, even those who are currently unable to do so due to renting. Some participants mentioned that they would adopt energy-efficient measures because it helps protect the environment and reduces their housing expenses. Examples of the suggested home improvements included solar panels, recycling, energy-efficient electrical systems, more drinking fountains and electric cars.



FINDINGS

A key component of ensuring energy-efficient homes is the cost. Participants agreed that financial support would make energy-efficient homes more accessible. With the exception of one individual, the majority of participants emphasized that such support would help reduce housing costs and increase their savings. They proposed that funding for this financial support should come from taxes or local government sources. This sentiment was particularly strong among the interviewees, with one interviewee adding that the workforce should receive the most support. Furthermore, the focus group discussed that most of the costs should be borne by homeowners since they will continue to use the energy-efficient items after the renter leaves. They suggested that renters contribute at least 20% of the costs, with one interviewee suggesting raising the renter contribution to 50%.



FINDINGS

A component to improve energy efficient homes is to inform homeowners and renters about funding options and low-interest loans for energy-efficient projects. Below are presented themes throughout the focus groups and interviews to outreach to homeowners and renters.

- Advertisements- social media, news papers, radio, etc
- Collaborations- local businesses, chamber of commerce, organizations, real estate agents, and local management companies
- Campaigns- real-life examples, programs
- Events- info-sessions

Participants in the focus group had the opportunity to devise strategies for the implementation of energy-efficient homes. Below, we present the strategies proposed by the participants, with particularly noteworthy topics highlighted in bold.

- Home Improvements
 - **Efficient light bulbs**
 - **Efficient heating and cooling**
 - **Recycling capacity**
 - Energy efficient construction regulation of homes
- Individuals Habits
 - Recycling
 - Unplug unused electronics
 - Turn off lights
 - Dry clothes outside during the summer
 - Meal planning
 - **Use energy efficient washer and dryer**
- Education about how to participate in energy efficient practices.

This group discussed ways to enhance the interaction between wildlife and residents, particularly focusing on topics like bear resistant trash containers, snowconing (overfilling trash cans), and wildlife conflict.

BEAR RESISTANT TRASH CONTAINERS

Participants in the focus group and interviews believed that stricter enforcement or fines for non-compliance with the rules would have the greatest impact, followed by education about the issue, financial support for purchasing bear-resistant trash containers, and the option to obtain smaller bear-resistant trash containers for a lower monthly cost. Technical assistance with fencing or removing fruit/fruit trees was considered the least effective strategy to persuade their neighbors to obtain a bear-resistant trash container. One third of the interviewees expressed that trash containers should be free to the community and the cost covered by the government.

Additionally, participants in the focus group established other strategies to encourage their neighbors to get a bear-resistant trash container and secure other attractants, which are listed below in order of preference.

1. Financial support purchasing bear-resistant trash containers.
2. Stricter enforcement or fines for non-compliance with the rules.
3. Education about the issue..
4. Offer smaller bear-resistant trash containers for a lower monthly cost.
5. Technical assistance with fencing or removing fruit/fruit trees





Reducing Wildlife Conflict

Reducing wildlife conflict was a topic covered by participants in the focus group. Below are strategies this group convened for reducing wildlife conflict in order of importance.

1. Stronger wildlife protection laws
2. Restrict certain areas wildlife only
3. More wildlife crossings or overpasses
4. Ensure construction areas do not threaten animal habitats
5. More information for tourists

Reducing Snowconing

Snowconing was defined to the participants of the focus group as the excess garbage around the trash container when the trash can is full and the lid does not close. Attendees of the focus group add the strategies below to reduce wildlife conflict in order of importance.

1. Educate the community on how to properly use the trash containers, that includes the proper way of recycling.
2. Implement the sense of belonging and responsibility among community.
3. Discuss with landlords and maintenance team to make this a priority.
4. Offer incentives for recycling

Water Conservation

Participants of this group were entrusted to chart water conservation. Engagers were specifically asked to discuss education, monetary components, irrigation restrictions, and landscaping.

Education

Participants in the focus group and interviewees felt education was an important component to water conservation and suggest the following:

- Info-sessions
- Educations needs to be a part of the school curriculum
- Employee trainings
- Collaborate with organizations
- Educational campaigns about climate change and solutions

Irrigation Restrictions

Irrigation was one of the least discussed topic and participants added to irrigate for a certain amount of hours in addition to irrigating at night and early morning.

Landscaping

Similar to irrigation restrictions, participants discussed this topic the least. Comments around this theme centered around using info-sessions to inform the community this is possible.



Monetary Component

The discussion on water conservation, particularly regarding the cost of water and financial support for water users, was a significant topic during the focus group and interviews.

All participants reached a consensus that implementing a pricing structure in which water is more affordable for low users and more expensive for high users would likely encourage reduced water consumption. One interviewee emphasized that individuals should pay for the amount of water they use, especially if they have large pools, gardens, and plants. A comment from the focus group suggested that there should be a maximum limit on water usage, with fines imposed if the limit is exceeded.

Furthermore, all participants also expressed the belief that water conservation efforts could be increased through a program that provides financial support or discounts for the purchase of water-efficient appliances and drought-tolerant plants. Focus group participants stressed the need for funding resources to aid the community in transitioning to water-efficient technologies and systems. An interviewee shared a similar viewpoint, adding that promoting the adoption of water-efficient appliances might require a community-wide campaign to ensure everyone is on board.

The focus group participants were given the opportunity to propose alternative solutions for water conservation. Their suggestions are outlined below, with particularly effective solutions highlighted in bold.

- **Reusable rain barrels**
- Stronger irrigation rules
- **Water efficient infrastructure in homes like shower heads, sinks, toilets, and drains**
- Water restriction rules for homes, apartments, etc.
- Info-sessions on water conservation
- Water conservation education added to school curriculums
- **Use less water when showering**

Transportation

The primary mode of transportation for both the focus group and interviewees is by car. Only one interviewee mentioned not owning a vehicle and instead opted for walking, biking, or using the bus. The main obstacles preventing the focus group and interviewees from using public transit or active modes of transportation are listed below. In bold are the prominent barriers.

- **Inaccessible bus routes in their area**
- **Rigid bus schedules conflicting with their work hours or child's school schedules**
- The transportation of work-related materials not feasible on a bus
- Weather conditions

Most interview participants expressed a reluctance to shift to alternative transportation methods because they value the convenience of setting their own schedules, having personal space, and the speed at which they reach their destinations. This preference persisted even after learning that the Town of Jackson is exploring options like a bike share or car share program. The few open to alternative transportation would require direct or express bus routes and financial support for obtaining a bike. The focus group participants echoed the same sentiments to shift to alternative modes.



FINDINGS



Participants of the focus group highlighted the need for additional bus routes, bike lanes, and financial assistance for purchasing a bike to consider transitioning to alternative transportation methods. They further expressed a willingness to utilize a bike share or car share program that the Town of Jackson is contemplating. They commented that such programs could benefit individuals who cannot obtain a driver's license, especially if they were accessible in high-traffic areas.

In addition to transportation, the focus group participants discussed two related issues: cell phone usage and electric bike speed limits. They noted that reducing the speed limits on electric bikes could potentially decrease accidents, especially when individuals are using their phones.

The focus group participants were provided with the chance to suggest alternative transportation methods. Below is a list of the different modes, with bold signifying a higher probability of usage.

- **Expand bus routes and bus hours**
- Limit car usage of families
- Bicycle regulations
- More use of bicycles

Focus Group Impact

71% Response Rate

The Sustainability Plan focus group was a success, with almost all of attendees reporting that they enjoyed the event. Additionally, all participants felt that their voices were heard, and they believed the event was important for the greater community, either all or most of the time.

Format

- 100% emphasized they were satisfied or highly satisfied with the event day, hour, and location.
- 100% highlighted that they were satisfied or highly satisfied with the format of the discussion.

Importance

- 100% of the participants stated that they felt the event was important for the greater community all or most of the time.
- 100% stated they voice was heard all or most of the time.
- 100% said they enjoyed the event all or most of the time.

“FUE UN EVENTO DINÁMICO Y ME GUSTO MUCHO, TODOS TUVIMOS LA OPORTUNIDAD DE COMPARTIR

“IT WAS A DYNAMIC EVENT AND I LIKED IT VERY MUCH, EVERYONE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE.”

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Town of Jackson for engaging the immigrant and limited-English speaking community in your outreach and work.

We thank the following Voices JH team members that made the interviews and focus group a success:

- Angela Splavnic
- Ana Quiroz
- Blanca More
- Emmanuel Estrada
- Johanna Moreno
- Maria Celia Perez Carrillo
- Maribel Estrella
- Mihaela Grosu
- Simeona Jimenez
- Roney de la Cruz
- Toma Klaus
- William Mariño
- Alin Y Badillo Carrillo

We extend our thank to the the following individuals for providing catering and child care services at the focus group.

- Marina Chapeton
- Leticia Sosa
- Sarahi Garcia Sosa

We thank you for your continued support of Voices JH!

Contact

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COUNCIL WORKPLAN CALENDAR 2023				
MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY
TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.
Begin Planning for Updates to Wasterwater Treatment Plant	Budget	License Plate Recognition Security Cameras	State Leg.: Post WAM, Agenda, & Approach	Karns Meadow Rezone
Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction Management-	State Legislative Post Session Debrief/WAM Resolutions	Incorporating Drone Use Into Police Department		
Joint Department Funding/Governance Proposal		Energy Audit RFP & Green House Gas Inventory-		
		Updates to Public Works Fees		
		Budget		
JIM	JIM	JIM	JIM	JIM
Transportation Work Plan	Long Range Planning Work Plan & Indicator Report	START JRA	Rec Center Fee Policy & Schedule	Workforce Housing Mitigation 2 Mtgs.
Housing Mitigation Policy Contract Amendment	Housing Supply & Work Plans	Budget	Budget	
	Budget			
	START Van Pool/Ride Matching, Service to Airport/GTNP - Budget			
	New Housing Partnership Developments & Land Acquisition			
AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.	TOWN MTGS.
Update to Anti-Discrimination Ordinance adding Anti-Bias Crimes	Council Retreat Planning & Execution	Stormwater Management Plan	State Legislative Agenda & Approach	Town Sustainability Plan
Center for the Arts Noise Discussion-	Service Agreement for Design of Gregory Lane	Censure Policy	Re-Evaluation of Large Bldg./2:1 Workforce Bonus	Karns Meadow EA & CUP Preview
	Town Sustainability Plan			Ecosystem Indicator Project
	Naming Policy			
JIM	JIM	JIM	JIM	JIM
			Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan	Regional Gov. & Transportation Planning Process & Agreements
				Joint Dept. Funding Review Process
CHANGES & UPDATES	DATE CHANGE MADE			
State Legislative Post Session Debrief - MOVED TO APRIL	1-Apr			
State Legislative Approach & Agenda - MOVED TO NOV.	23-May			
Support for Women's Reproductive Rights - PENDING	23-Jul			
Censure Policy - ADDED TO OCTOBER AFTER SCOPING REPORT	23-Jul			
Naming Policy - ADDED TO AUGUST - CONTINUED TO SEPT.	23-Jul			
Karns Meadow Conditional Use Permit - ADDED TO OCT.	23-Jul			
Stormwater Management Plan - MOVING TO TBD DATE IN FALL	23-Jul			
Cow Pasture 1 & 2 Softball Field Replacement - MOVED TO JANUARY	9-Oct			
Pre-Construction Services Bid for Stilson - MOVING TO TBD WINTER JIM	23-Aug			
Compliance Issues for FTA Grants - HANDLED BY TOWN MANAGER	18-Sep			
Consideration of Town Org. Structure & Efficiency - MOVED TO NOV.	20-Sep			
Workforce Housing Mitigation - MOVED TO MARCH 2024	3-Oct			
Re-Evaluation of Large Bldg./2:1 Workforce Bonus - MOVED TO NOV.	3-Oct			
Karns Meadow EA & CUP Preview - ADDED TO DECEMBER	3-Oct			
Town Mobility Overlay - MOVED TO MARCH 2024	3-Oct			
Urban Forest Ord. Update & Program - MOVED TO DECEMBER	6-Oct			
Town Org. Structure/Efficiencies - HANDLED BY TOWN MANAGER	24-Oct			
Ecosystem Indicator Project - MOVED TO DECEMBER	24-Oct			
Total Compensation Review - MOVED TO 2024	24-Oct			
Water Quality/Drinking Water Regs - RELATED MEMO FOR COUNCIL	26-Oct			
Policy Manual Update - MOVED TO Q1 OF 2024	1-Nov			
Town Employee Housing Strategy - MOVED TO Q2 OF 2024	1-Nov			
Equity Task Force Further Recommendations - MOVED TO DEC., THEN JAN.	6-Nov			
Future staffing for all departments - MOVED TO Q3 OF 2024	13-Nov			
Urban Forest Ord. Update & Program Policy - MOVED TO Q1 OF 2024	13-Nov			

COUNCIL WORKPLAN CALENDAR 2024			
QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4
Policy Manual Update	Assisted Living Housing Program	Design of E. Broadway, N. Cache, Maple Way	Design & Construction of Gregory Lane (Mtg.3)
Updated Design Standards for Safe Streets	Town Employee Housing Strategy	Continued Growth/Demand for EMS	
Planning Stormwater Management Program	Adding Fees for Services to Offset Costs	Fire/EMS Level of Service & Setting Expectations	
Equity Task Force Further Recommendations & Next Steps	Design & Construction of Gregory Lane (April)	Volunteer Career/Staffing Model & Dynamics	
Town Mobility Overlay (March)	Northern South Park	Future staffing for all departments	
Total Compensation Review	Budget		
Urban Forest Ord. Update & Program Policy Procedures			
Budget			
JIM			
Pre-Construction Services Bid for Stilson			
Workforce Housing Mitigation (March)			
Cow Pasture 1 & 2 Softball Field Replacement (Jan.)			

PROJECT	DEPARTMENT LEAD	REQUESTOR	MOTION MADE	BRING BACK DATE
				(60-ISH DAYS)
Airport Capital Budget & Related Engagement	Admin	AJ	9/6/22	January '24
Snow King & Willow Stop Sign	PW	Council	3/20/23	Town Engineer, January '24
Center for the Arts Lease	Admin	AJ	5/22/22	April 17 - Roxanne, motion to address noise, coming back August
Potential to Host Mountain Towns 2030	Comm. Dev.	JSC	12/19/22	April 17 - Tanya
Indoor Vaping Ordinance	Legal	HML	2/6/23	July 17 - Council vote to add to PI List
Research About Censure Policy	Legal	JR	2/9/23	July 17 - Council vote to bring back @ future meeting
Discussion of Council Travel	Admin	Council	3/6/23	April 17 - Roxanne - Brought Back June 26
Construction Management Plans	Public Works	JR	8/15/22	February
Shifting Timeline for JIM Meeting Materials	?	JS	9/18/23	Sept. 18 - Council vote for a Scoping Report, if needed

POTENTIAL INITIATIVE (PI) LIST

PROJECT	REQUESTOR	DATE OF REQUEST
COUNCIL IDENTIFIED PI ITEMS		
Invest More Time in Relationship w/ County	JR	Retreat Feb. '23
Information Technology 5-Year Work Plan	JSC	Retreat Feb. '23
Geographic Information System (GIS)	JSC	Retreat Feb. '23
Revisit Comp Plan Definitions of 'Healthy Community'	JR	Retreat Feb. '23
Revisit Comp Plan Definitions of 'Healthy Economy'	JS	Retreat Feb. '23
Alternative Forms of Government, Expanding # of Council Seats	JSC	Retreat Feb. '23
Outside Evaluator to Assess Org. Structure & Transformation	JS	Retreat Feb. '23
Adding Mill of Property Tax	AJ	Retreat Feb. '23
Town Manager Prioritizing Organizational transformation	JS	Retreat Feb. '23
Senior Staff Building in Time to be Strategic & Proactive	JS	Retreat Feb. '23
Lodging Tax Increase	AJ	Retreat Feb. '23
County Water Sewer Connections & Staffing	AJ	Retreat Feb. '23
Franchise Request from Toro Blanco Group	AJ	1-May-23
Indoor Vaping Ordinance	Council vote after Scoping Report	17-Jul-23
Comprehensive Parking Review	JR	13-Nov-23
Long-Term Budget Situation & Implications	JSC	13-Nov-23
STAFF IDENTIFIED ITEMS THAT DID NOT MAKE COUNCIL LIST	DEPARTMENT REQUESTOR	DOTS FROM RETREAT
Dog Off-Leash/Dog In Park Ordinance Review &/or Modification	Parks & Rec	0
Acessory Residential Unit Program	Housing	0
Parking Study Phase 3 - Policy,Strategies/Requirements	Transportation	2
Parking Related to Willow Street Safe Routes	Pathways	0
Code Enforcement Expectations & Parking Management	Police Dept.	2
Redesigning the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan	Public Works	2
Public Finance/Transparency/Metric Reporting Database	Finance Dept.	2
Budget Process & Format - Priority Driven Budgeting	Finance Dept.	0
Revisit Town Investment Policy	Finance Dept.	2
Status & Management of Residential Unit "Cap"	Planning Dept.	0
Standard for "Legacy Zones" to match Comp Plan	Planning Dept.	1
Standards for Landscaping to match Comp Plan	Planning Dept.	1
Procurement & Purchasing Policy	Administration	2

January 8, 2024 Regular Town Council Meeting

Initial SR Due: 12/8; Complete SR Due: 12/22; Final SR Due: 1/1

TOPIC

Announcements & Proclamations

New Employee Introduction: Jason Pritchard, Street Operator/Meter Reader

Consent Calendar

Minutes & Disbursements

December 11, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting

December 18, 2023 Regular Town Council Workshop

December 18, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting

Other

Century Link Franchise Agreement

Official Depositories

Discussion & Action Items

Resolutions

Ordinances

Equity Task Force Recommendations

Letters to State Legislators

Request for LDR Text Amendment to the Neighborhood High Density-1 Zone (P23-168)

Stilson Transit Center Facility Project General Contracting Service

Ordinance F-N: LDR Clean-Up and Annual Update (P23-026)

Ordinance X: An Ordinance Updating Required Bicycle Parking (P23-016)

Matters from Mayor and Council

Matters from the Town Manager

Town Manager's Report

Adjourn