

At a Glance: The Value of the Sustainability Division

Leverage funding from external sources	The Sustainability Division (Sustainability) researches opportunities for external funding for environmental projects for the Division and the Corporation. Sources of funding include the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the National Research Council of Canada, and provincial utilities, amongst others. See Attachment 4 of the Sustainability Report for details.	\$995,000 Of federal grant funding secured for environmental initiatives in 2018-2019
Support for community-led initiatives	The City of Saskatoon's (City) Environmental Grant supports community groups to carry out sustainability initiatives. In the last five years, 34 grants totalling \$90,000 have been awarded, which have leveraged initiatives valued at \$659,315. See Attachment 5 of the Sustainability Report for details.	\$1 : \$7.30 For every City dollar spent through the Environmental Grant, \$7.30 community dollars are leveraged
Facilitate asset improvements for operational savings and user satisfaction	The City's Energy Performance Contracting (EPC) project is leading facility improvements valued at \$36M. ¹ Completed "go early" projects have already led to upwards of \$180,000 in annual savings, while the entire contemplated scope of work is estimated to result in over \$1.1M in annual savings. Not only do EPC projects reduce facility operating costs, they also reduce annual emissions, contribute to asset renewal, and provide facility comfort.	\$1.1M Projected savings per year resulting from EPC improvements
Save money through utility bill management	Sustainability manages utility bills for City operations through measurement and verification, creating budgets, and analysis of utility consumption and costs, which has led to \$877,234 in savings since 2017. Sustainability also provides support for Capital Projects that involve energy management for energy baselining, measurement and verification, and expertise, which has resulted in \$250,689 in savings since 2017. The Energy & Sustainability section also supports Finance in responsible accounting of City funds through City GL code corrections.	\$1.128M Total cost savings to the City resulting from Energy Management for Operations and Capital Project support (from 2017 to Nov. 2019).
Reduce costs through natural gas procurement	Sustainability manages natural gas contracts with a third party supplier instead of using the SaskEnergy default rate. This allows the City to obtain lower commodity charges through the natural gas market vs SaskEnergy, implement hedging strategies, and obtain lower delivery charges by switching accounts from a small to large meter designation.	\$2.016M Total cost savings to the City resulting from Natural Gas Supply Management (from 2015 to Nov. 2019) ²
Support a water system that is efficient & reliable	The Low Emissions Community (LEC) plan proposes an 11% reduction in potable water use by 2025. Current water use is approx. 40 billion litres per year, meaning an 11% reduction would be equivalent to 4.4 billion litres of water per year. A Water Conservation	11% Reduction in potable water use by 2025

¹ Inclusive of PST and GST.² Compared to SaskEnergy's posted rates.

	Strategy is currently under development, which will identify strategies to achieve this level of reduction, examine ways to maintain efficiency and reliability of our water services, as well as outline the financial implications for both our utility and water customers.	
Identify actions to mitigate & manage climate risks	Using scientifically generated climate scenarios and projections, Sustainability worked with other divisions to create a corporate climate adaptation plan to manage the increasing risk to the City from changing local weather conditions and the climate crisis. Some studies have shown that for every \$1 spent on disaster mitigation, \$6 can be saved in reactive measures.	\$1 : \$6 cost of adaptation planning and preventative action compared to costs of reactive measures
Extend the life of the landfill through waste reduction & diversion	Waste reduction projects have traditionally been initiated by the Sustainability Division, including waste diversion through recycling and organics processing. In 2018, recycling and organics diversion resulted in 28,421 tonnes of waste diverted from the landfill, while residential garbage collection has decreased from 284 kg/capita in 2011 to 226 kg/capita in 2017. Further work on waste reduction is underway, including capital and operations planning and design for Recovery Park, Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional recycling and organics and the creation of a Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan for the next decade.	18 Additional years of landfill life once the residential curbside organics program and the full build out of Recovery Park are in place. ³
Properly manage hazardous waste	The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program provides a convenient service for residents to safely and responsibly dispose of hazardous materials. The 2019 HHW program saw seven of the largest events in the program's history with records set in participation (3,930 vehicles) and weight of material collected (148,844 kg). Since 2015, the HHW program has received 540,024 kg (540 tonnes) of household hazardous waste from 15,369 residents.	148,844kg Amount of Household Hazardous Waste material collected in 2019 through the City's HHW program
Support environmental protection to improve safety and reduce risk	The Environmental Protection section ensures that impacted soils on City properties are both identified, as well as safely and effectively managed according to legislation. Environmental Protection provides impacted soil expertise to manage potential environmental risks for City projects.	16 Corporate initiatives accessed soil advisory services in 2019
Enhance the Green Network and support ecosystem regeneration	Through projects such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy, research-based planning informs work to safe-guard and regenerate the environment and ecosystems. The City – in collaboration with community partners – is planning to develop a contiguous network of high quality public land to	600+ Stakeholders informed the development of the Green Infrastructure Strategy in 2019

³ Assumes that a "Status Quo" approach would include the same per capita residential waste disposal as 2019 and a population increase of 1.5% annually.

	<p>provide ecosystem services to citizens and support the region's natural systems. In 2019, over 600 technical advisors, subject matter experts, residents, and green space users informed the development of the vision, actions, and priority areas for the Strategy. Biodiversity and Urban Agriculture were among the top priorities for many.</p>	
<p>Align GHG reduction targets with other municipalities</p>	<p>The City is a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and has aligned its greenhouse gas reduction targets with those of over 10,000 cities and local governments from around the world.</p>	<p>80% by 2050</p> <p>The City's corporate and community GHG emission reduction target</p>
<p>Manage costs through dedicated climate mitigation actions</p>	<p>The Low Emissions Community (LEC) plan identifies multiple co-benefits associated with dedicated action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change. When compared to a Business as Planned (status quo) scenario for City finances, the LEC scenario results in a total estimated return of \$5.7B after investments.</p>	<p>\$5.7B</p> <p>estimated return on City investments by achieving low emissions and meeting GHG reduction targets by 2050</p>
<p>Collaborate with corporate and community partners</p>	<p>The Sustainability Division recognizes that internal and external partnerships and collaboration are key to effectively and successfully implementing its work plan and mandate. See Attachment 6 of the Sustainability Report for details.</p>	<p>25+</p> <p>External organizations the Sustainability Division partnered or collaborated with in 2019</p>
<p>Build capacity in our youth</p>	<p>The Student Action for a Sustainable Future program engages approximately 300 grade 5-8 students each year in action projects that result in measurable environmental improvements in the areas of waste, water, energy, food, biodiversity and transportation.</p>	<p>300</p> <p>Students directly engaged in environmental action projects each year</p>