



# Sustainability

## Strategic Plan

The University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) Sustainability Strategic Plan outlines the overarching goals and strategies for University sustainability from 2022-2026. The plan was developed by UMB students, staff, and faculty, and feedback was received from groups across UMB. The plan was officially launched at the end of February 2022 and will serve as a living document for guiding sustainability initiatives at UMB. The plan was most recently updated in April 2022 after the passing of the [Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 \(Senate Bill 0528\)](#) in the Maryland legislature.

### Utilities and Emissions

Minimize UMB's greenhouse gas emissions in support of our campus carbon neutrality goal of 2045.\*

Increase UMB's renewable energy source percentage to 75% by 2030.



#### Accomplished

*February 2023: In addition to the [three power purchase agreements](#) in which UMB participates, we are purchasing Green-e Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to cover the remaining portion of UMB's electricity usage, bringing us to 100% renewable electricity for Calendar Year 2022. We will continue to purchase Green-e RECs to achieve 100% renewable electricity each year moving forward.*

Reduce campus greenhouse gas emissions from campus energy use by 60% by 2031 through efficiency projects.



#### On Track

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from commuters and university vehicles by 50% by 2050.



**We Could Do Better**

Purchase high quality third party carbon offsets from local or regional vendors to cover 20% of university sponsored air travel by 2030, with all university sponsored air travel being offset by 2045.



**Not Yet Started**

Minimize the environmental impacts of UMB's built environment.

Improve UMB's practices to provide ecological landscapes that benefit all life within our campus community.




**On Track**

Decrease potable water use on campus.



**We Could Do Better**

*\*This goal has been updated as of April 2022 due to the passing of the [Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 \(Senate Bill 0528\)](#). *

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### Campus Planning and Design

Incorporate climate resilience considerations into campus planning and operations.

Complete a resilience assessment to provide a baseline of current resilience activities on campus and in the community and identify current vulnerabilities related to climate change.



**On Track**

Optimize sustainable features and incorporate sustainability into new construction, renovations, and smaller building projects.

Decrease building net direct greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2030 (2025 baseline) and achieve net zero direct greenhouse gas emissions by 2040.



**We Could Do Better**

Meet IgCC/LEED Silver requirements for new construction and major capital renovation projects by requiring building energy use to meet or exceed ASHRAE 90.1-2010 standards.



**On Track**

Optimize the efficiency and utilization of campus infrastructure.

Reduce the assignable square footage per total FTE faculty, staff, and students by 5% by 2030.



**Not Yet Started**

Design and promote a pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly interconnected multi-modal network linking destinations within the UMB campus to the broader Baltimore community.

Seek Silver-level Bicycle Friendly University status by 2025.




**On Track**

Create a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan for the campus.



**Not Yet Started**

\*This goal has been updated as of April 2022 due to the passing of the [Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 \(Senate Bill 0528\)](#) .

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### Waste and Procurement

Promote source reduction, reuse, and recycling & composting across UMB's campus.

Reduce overall waste disposal at UMB by 10% by 2025.



**We Could Do Better**

Increase UMB's recycling rate to 35% by 2025.



**On Track**

Expand opportunities for composting on campus.



**On Track**

Identify, enable, and promote green product solutions that address the environmental, social, and economic impacts on the UMB campus and surrounding communities.

Convert 100% of UMB's passenger fleet vehicles to zero emissions vehicles (ZEV) by 2030, convert 100% of other light duty fleet vehicles to ZEV by 2036, and work to right-size the fleet.



**On Track**

Identify and prioritize categories of spending where local, sustainable purchasing can be enhanced.



**We Could Do Better**

Promote sustainable eating practices (locally-sourced, plant-forward, and low-waste) among the UMB population.

Promote purchasing sustainable food (local and plant-forward) in on-campus dining locations and through personal choices.



**Not Yet Started**

Promote catering and food ordering habits that minimize food waste and single-use disposable packaging waste.



**On Track**

\*This goal has been updated as of April 2022 due to the passing of the [Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 \(Senate Bill 0528\)](#)

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### Education and Engagement

Create and maintain a constant communication flow with the entire campus community regarding sustainability.

Foster working relationships with schools and departments, and partner on collaborative efforts.



**On Track**

Communicate to the campus on a regular basis with initiatives and tips to keep sustainability a part of the UMB culture.



**On Track**

Ensure that students leave UMB with an understanding of climate change and knowledge about sustainability.

Include a sustainability course in UMB's curriculum across all schools and disciplines.



**On Track**

Develop a robust Green Labs program to ensure that academic research is conducted as efficiently and sustainability as possible.



**On Track**

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