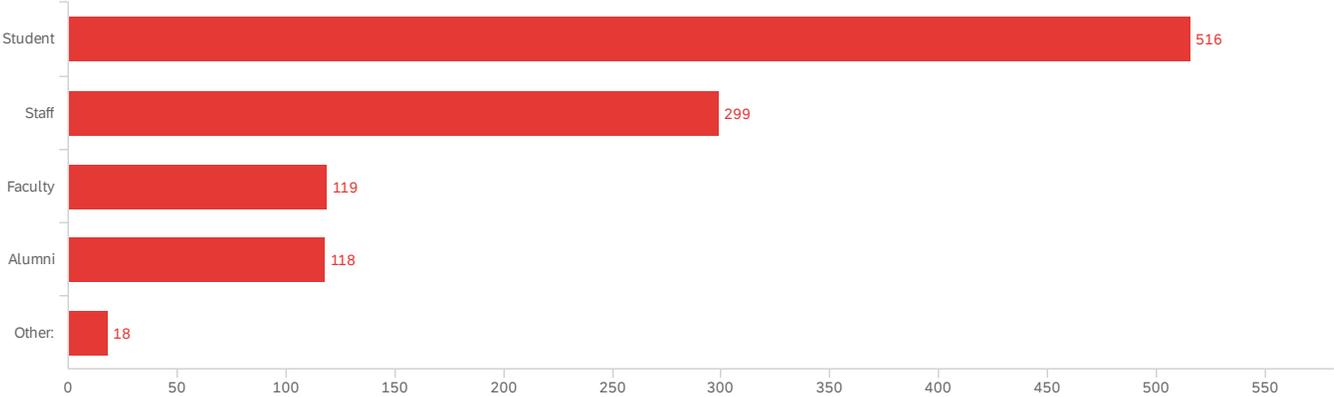


Survey Results

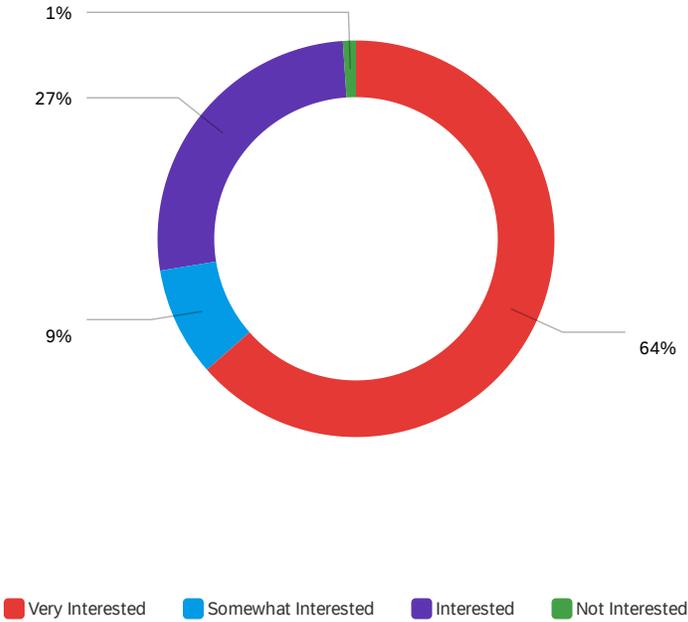
USC Sustainability 2028 Plan Survey

March 19, 2020 10:48 AM MDT

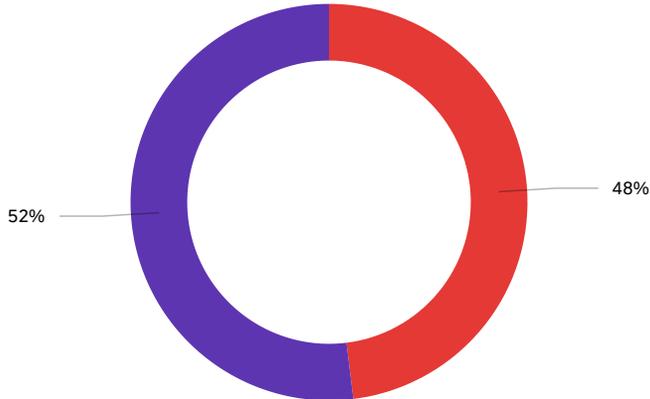
Please identify your USC affiliation (select all that apply) (1 of 11)



Please indicate your level of interest in sustainability on USC's campus (2 of 11)



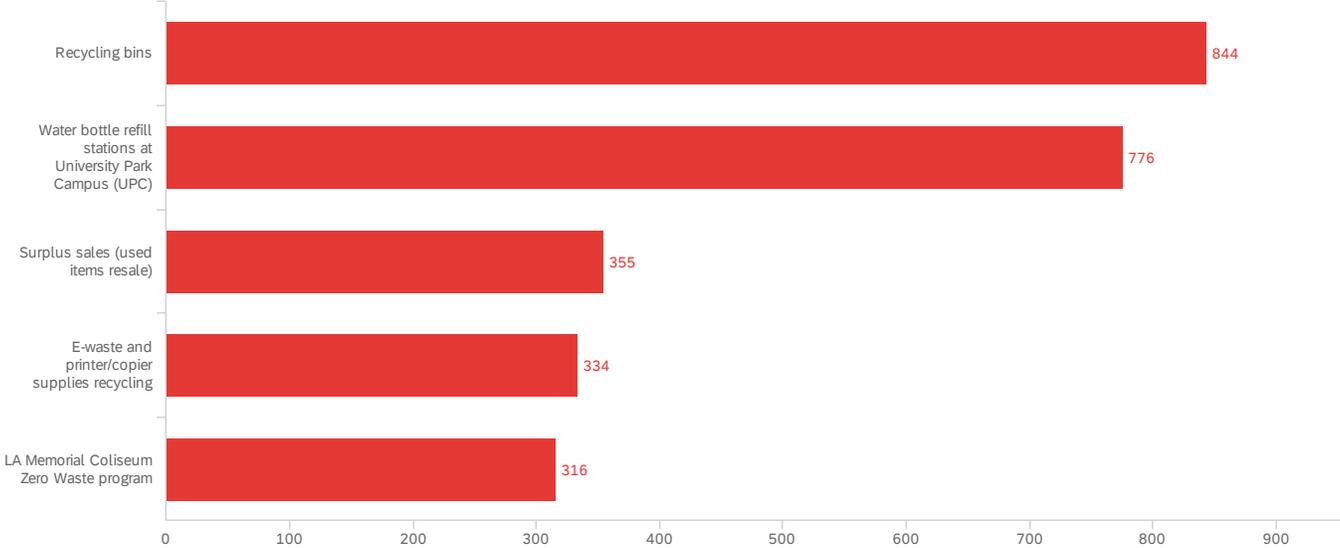
Do you agree with the following statement: "I know how to participate in efforts to advance sustainability at USC?" (3 of 11)



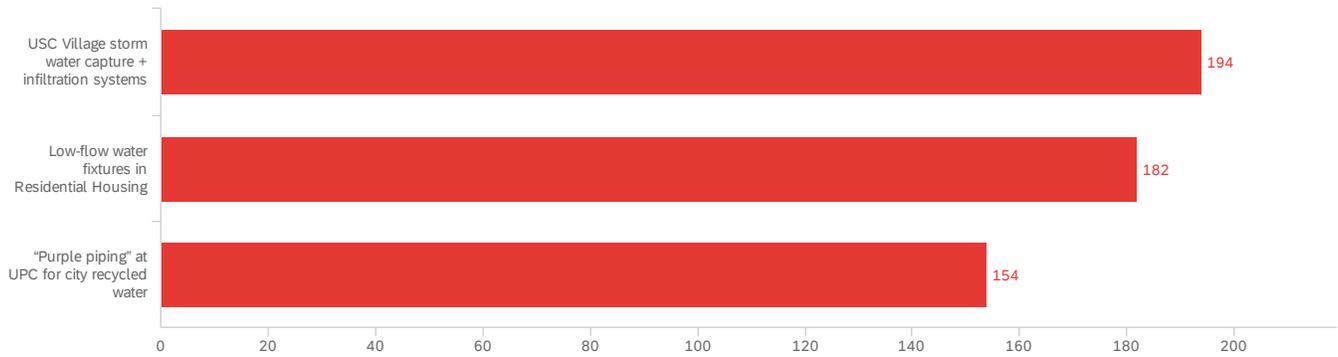
Agree Disagree

Which of the following waste diversion initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware

of? (4.1 out of 11)

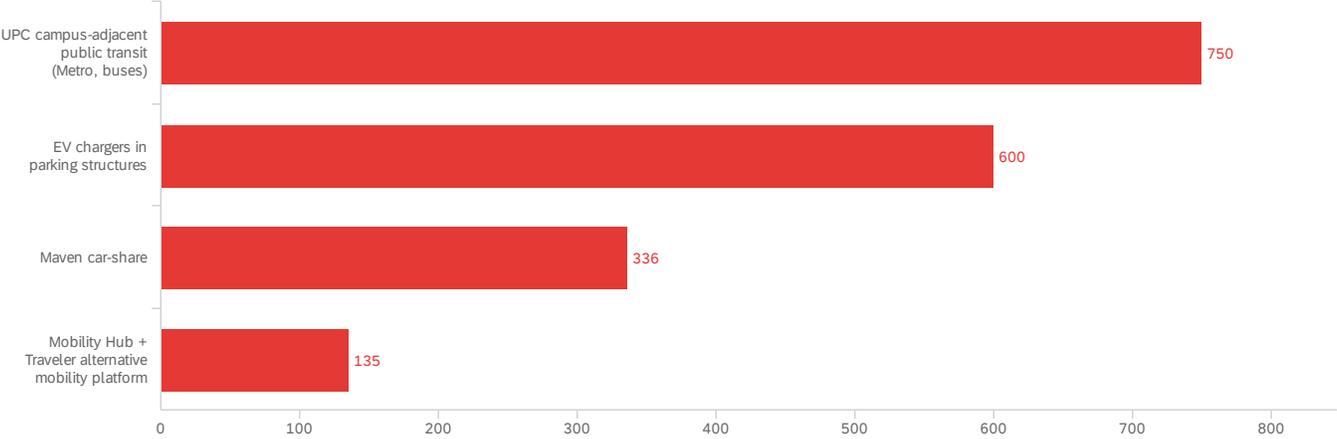


Which of the following water conservation initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware of? (4.2 out of 11)

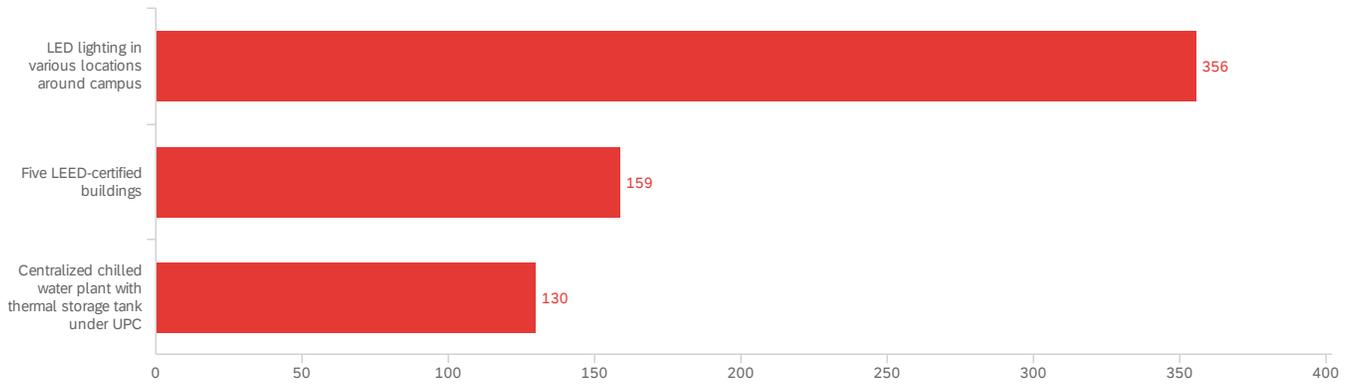


Which of the following transportation initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware

of? (4.3 out of 11)

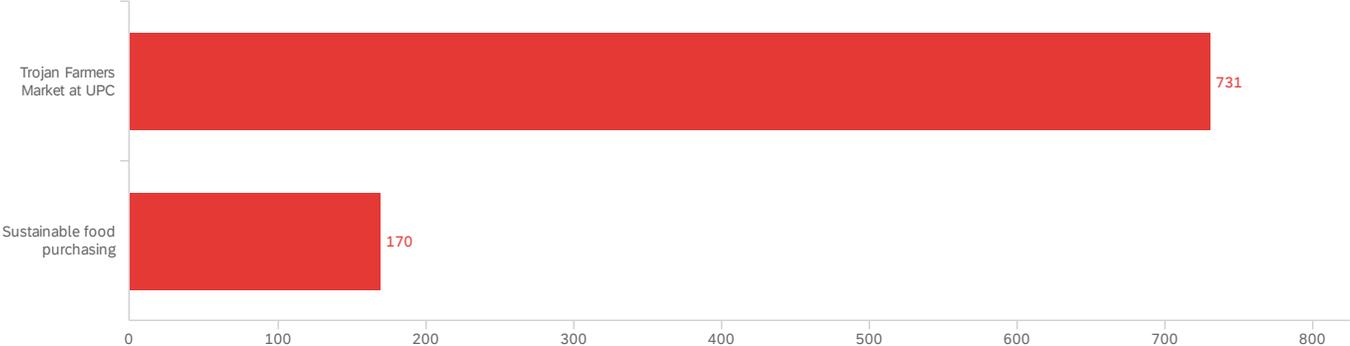


Which of the following energy conservation initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware of? (4.4 out of 11)



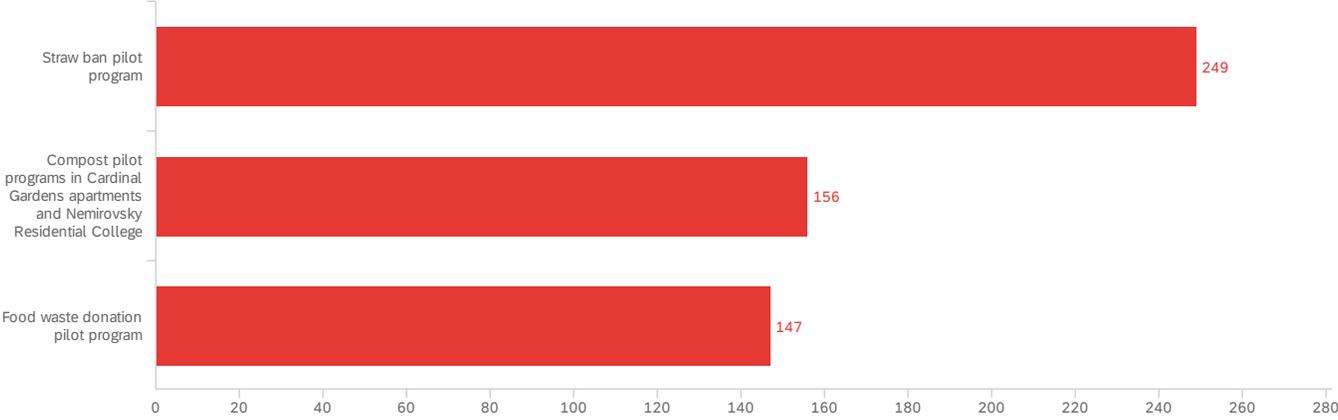
Which of the following purchasing initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware of?

(4.5 out of 11)

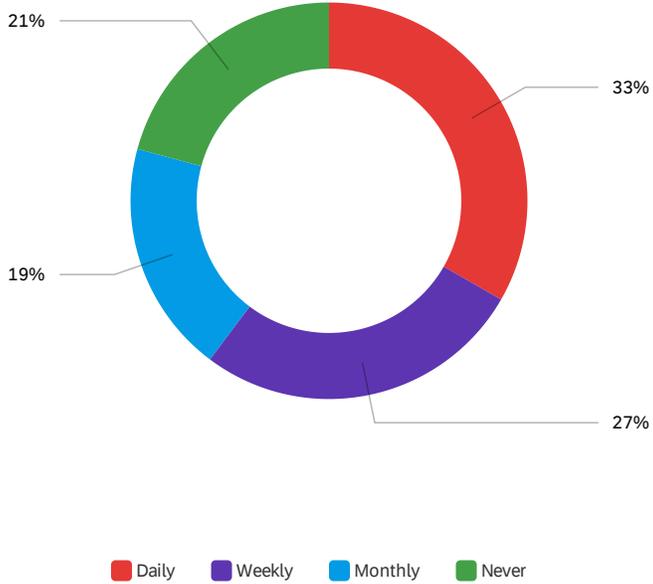


Which of the following residential dining and housing initiatives currently in place at USC

are you aware of? (4.6 out of 11)



About how often do you participate in sustainability activities on campus (5 of 11)



Sustainability is commonly referred to as having a triple bottom line: economic development, environmental health, and social (including intergenerational) equity. Rank in preference the following statements (drag and drop) (6 of 11)

#	Field	1	2	3	Total
1	USC should focus on sustainable economic development.	106	289	410	805
2	USC should focus on environmental health.	445	234	126	805
3	USC should focus on social equity.	254	282	269	805

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3

Which of these potential sustainable transportation and energy efforts would work well at USC? (rank by dragging and dropping) (7 of 11)

Respondents prioritized transportation and energy efforts at USC in the following order:

#	Field	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Create an e-scooter and/or bicycle-share program	104	137	146	188	302	877
2	Offer incentives to decrease single occupancy vehicles traveling to campus (e.g. transit passes and ride-share programs)	296	234	196	92	59	877
3	Increase EV charging infrastructure and/or other EV adoption incentives	24	108	150	288	307	877
4	Increase electric fleet including buses	77	211	255	206	128	877
5	Increase renewable energy infrastructure in appropriate locations	376	187	130	103	81	877

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Which of these potential waste diversion efforts would work well at USC? (rank by dragging and dropping) (8 of 11)

Respondents prioritized waste diversion efforts at USC in the following order:

#	Field	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Implement a campus-wide ban on single-use plastics (beverage bottles, plastic bags and service ware, etc)	392	120	82	73	167	834
2	Start composting throughout Residential Housing	57	201	209	239	128	834
3	Institute food scraps composting (e.g. scraping plates) in Residential Dining and other dining facilities	77	188	240	217	112	834
4	Develop Zero Waste programs at athletics venues such as the Galen Center (already in place at the Coliseum)	81	150	166	176	261	834
5	Increase food left-overs donations to USC Food Pantry and local homeless services organizations	227	175	137	129	166	834

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Which of these potential sustainability efforts would work well at USC? (rank by dragging and dropping) (10 of 11)

#	Field	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Expand the "Sustainable Living Guide" outlining sustainable behaviors choices - customize for students and staff/faculty	163	158	131	155	207	814
2	Expand staffing and budget for the Office of Sustainability (currently two full-time staffers)	340	121	127	127	99	814
3	Expand sustainability-focused residential housing options (i.e. Cardinal and Gold apartments)	58	179	217	217	143	814
4	Increase sustainable food procurement for Residential Dining	134	228	206	165	81	814
5	Increase vegan options and education in Residential Dining (ie Meatless Mondays) and other dining facilities	119	128	133	150	284	814

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Respondents prioritized sustainability efforts at USC in the following order:

#	Field	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Expand the "Sustainable Living Guide" outlining sustainable behaviors choices - customize for students and staff/faculty	163	158	131	155	207	814
2	Expand staffing and budget for the Office of Sustainability (currently two full-time staffers)	340	121	127	127	99	814
3	Expand sustainability-focused residential housing options (i.e. Cardinal and Gold apartments)	58	179	217	217	143	814
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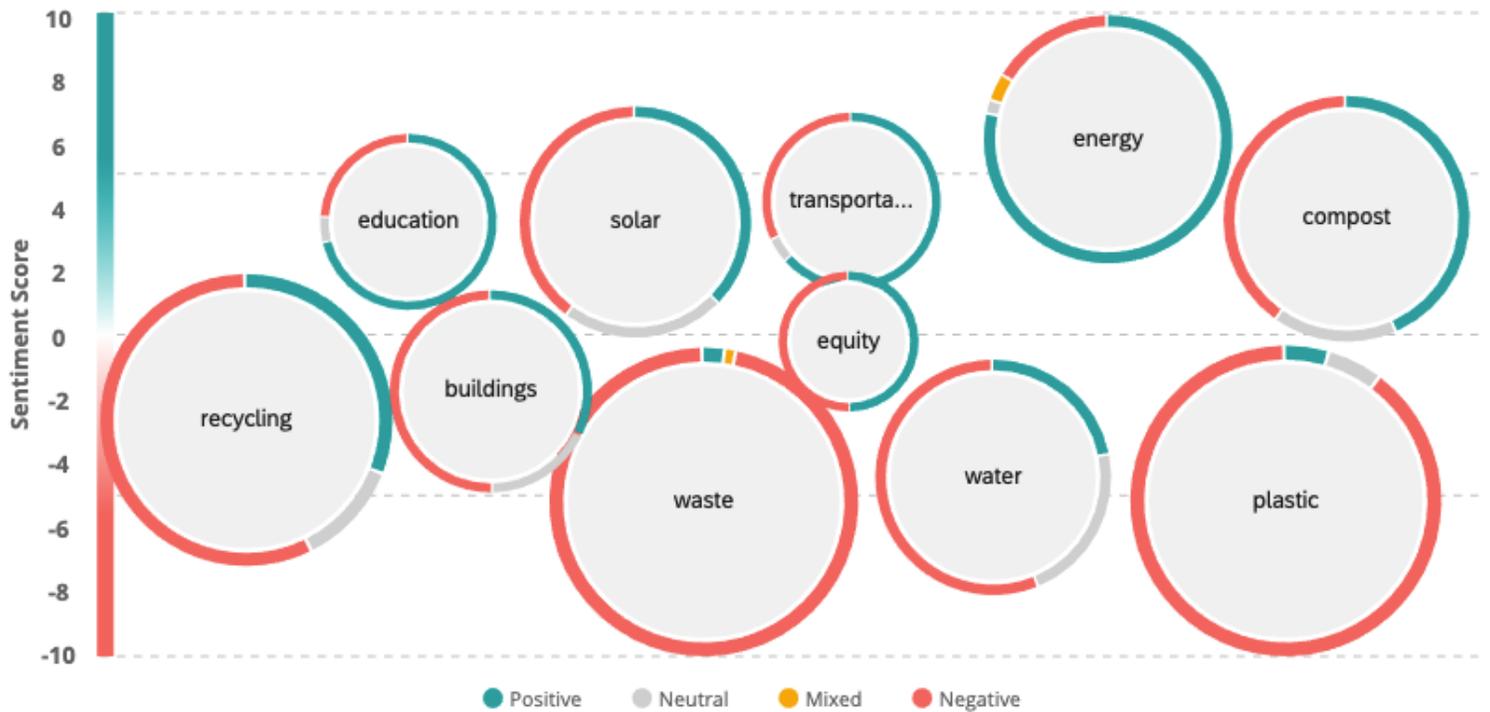
Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

2028 Survey Results: Question 11 Analysis – March 19, 2019

Q: Q: What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (11 of 11)

943 Survey Responses	
Key Word	Count
Plastic	83
Waste	85
Recycling	77
Energy	56
Compost	55
Water	50
Solar	48
Buildings	34
Transportation	22
Education	21
Equity	2

All Topics



What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (open) (11 of

11)



What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Divest from fossil fuels and switch to renewables on campus.

Switch the generational priority of USC from prestige and economic prosperity to environmental and community health needs. We need to be considering what USC can do, with its boundless resources and influences, to be a leader in the switch to sustainable institutions. We can do this!

Ban plastic use in all student and campus events Increase parking fee to encourage people to take transit and other non automobile transportation

Strive to reduce waste in all its forms and make sustainability part of the cultural DNA on campus. Use its purchasing power to drive sustainability into the supply chain and its role in the community to influence policy.

ban plastics & more plant based food

Eliminate waste on campus!

Add a second Farmers Market during the week!

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Stop wasting energy with lighting, stop single use plastics, make recycling easier

turn the lights off in the buildings at night!! the lights are always on even when no one is there

Energy usage and water usage

When I was touring schools, I was very impressed how cal state Long Beach had a trash system all over campus with trash bins, recycling bins and a compost bin all connected. It was an aesthetically pleasing trash bin and it also had information on what to throw away in specific trash cans. I've noticed that it's hard to find a recycling bin at usc and I'm a sustainability nut so I'll walk to find one. A lot of people are lazy and throw their recyclables in the trash so if all of the trash, recycling, and compost were in the same place, I think people would recycle more. I also think we should do a ban on single use items that aren't compostable on campus.

Cultural awareness programs would be the most important step towards sustainability. Too often, students, staff, faculty are apathetic as to what is sustainable behavior. There is too much emphasis on "Looking Sustainable" rather than "Being Sustainable"

1. Reduce meat options and improve the quality of vegetarian options 2. Require food vendors to procure supplies from farmers who practice regenerative farming techniques 3. Help fund individual schools'/units' efforts to improve green infrastructure, such as low-water-use urinals 4. Divest from fossil-fuel companies 5. Push for external conferences that use USC space to meet sustainability requirements 6. Do a sustainability audit of university partners and push those partners to use sustainable practices if not already in place: Neighborhood Academic Initiative; JEP; Keck/USC hospital network; Ednovate 7. Help development, communications and faculty and student affairs officers better understand best options for sustainable printing (vendors that supply recycled paper; recyclable printer ink; etc.)

Work toward reducing hurtful waste via minimizing single-use products in events, festivities, or other. There is an absurd number of trash cans around campus e.g. Trousdale. Perhaps that would reduce waste.

Divest!

Reducing usage of paper such as transitioning to e-books and less printing

Educating about the sustainable lifestyle

Sustainability

Partner with the local community Build awareness for all faculty, staff and students Continue sustainability efforts Set goals for all faculty, staff and students to participate in USC's sustainability efforts on a daily basis

Continue to provide and increase Metro subsidy. Continue to educate about the importance of decreasing harmful behaviors that contribute to climate disaster. Work with the city to make our roads more bike-friendly and bike-safe. Emulate Cleveland convention center who use farm animals like goats and pigs to eat food waste.

Implement a strict purchasing policy where all USC departments can only purchase compostable and recyclable items - i.e no plastic cutlery, plates, plastic bottles etc

Please switch off lights in building that are open 24/7 but no one is present. Like Leavy library everything is on just for the sake of 1-2 people in the library and the same is in SAL lab.

Water and electricity

Increase the awareness for sustainable living in off campus areas surroundings.

Expand awareness and incorporate the surrounding neighborhoods.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Divest from Fossil Fuels Investment, if there are any. It's the most hypocritical thing you can do. Also recycling bins - I don't know a high school without recycling bins.

Increase bus fleet, more water bottle filling stations, own bicycle/e-scooter sharing program, solar powered street lights, rainwater harvesting, complete ban on single use plastic campus wide

Be more active in it's efforts instead of trying to push the focus on student/employees who likely have limited resources and power over others

stop using plastics and encourage more Trojans who drive to campus to drive electric cars. or at least electric hybrids. One incentive: cut the parking rate in half for those who help achieve USC's sustainability goals and who refrain from relying on gasoline-powered vehicles.

Have recycling and composting bins everywhere on campus where there is currently only a trash can. Have refillable water bottle stations at every building on campus. Increase solar panels on buildings across campus. Update old buildings on campus to have more reliable/consistent and energy-efficient heating and cooling methods. Require all schools and units on campus to stop use of wasteful things like plastic forks in faculty lounges, K-Cups, etc.

Put more recycling bins around campus. Possible offer a bin for trash, recycle (like bottles, cans, etc) and compost like food scraps. Also, show more ways to be eco friendly. For example, I bring a stainless steel food container for my lunch. (I'm happy to provide a picture) Also, offer more eco friendly ways to heat up food other than microwaves like a toaster oven.

I think one important aspect that is not really working is the printing at school. A lot of professors still prefer printing one sided instead of double sided and the printing at Marshall when done on students computer does not allow for a black and white option and will default print one sided, therefore being incredibly wasteful and also costly for students.

Have sorting stations throughout campus instead of direct landfill trash.

Get rid of plastics and use less paper for printers.

More renewable energy, less plastic use.

Encourage decreased use of animal agriculture

educating staff and faculty. I feel like students are mostly on board (they are Gen Z after all) but I see the biggest issues with faculty and staff.

At city center, each office break room is full of wasteful plastic. Each department has to purchase supplies (coffee, creamer, cups, etc) out of their own budget so they buy what's cheapest - which is the least sustainable. Every person who has a cup of coffee uses a non-sustainable coffee pod, a plastic individual - sized creamer cup, a plastic stirring straw, a styrofoam or plastic cup. It's extremely wasteful because no one can afford to be sustainable. It would be great if each floor could receive a subsidy for sustainable goods, like biodegradable coffee pods, cups, stirrers, flatware, plates, and bulk size creamers (with a soy or oatmilk option). We also need larger recycling bins more prominently placed. The recycling bin in our lunch room is rarely used. It would also be helpful to have an instructive guide on what can be recycled and how to recycle mixed materials.

Establish policies and create the appropriate infrastructure/tools that reinforce the desired sustainable behavior.

Ban single use plastic.

Have staff bring their own mug (reusable ceramic) instead of using paper cups at coffee machines. Also bring and use refillable water containers. Give incentives for staff who never use paper or styrofoam cups. Replace wasteful coffee machines with models that create less waste. Encourage staff to bring their own containers and utensils to catered events, receptions, etc.

compost

Water the lawns less often and in the evenings. Make it more affordable to select sustainable options for dining and from vendors (recycled paper, recyclable pens, etc.)

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Raise awareness

I think USC should implement more renewable energy buildings. Los Angeles is sunny most part of the year, this could be exploited in a more deliberate way: buildings that use solar panels to power themselves and buildings that use natural lighting. I think also that thing that is lacking all over LA area and USC could pioneer is education around recycling: what kind of plastics do plastic means, when a paper is too dirty to go into the recycling bin and what are the consequences of bad recycling (i.e. the whole batch goes bad) I think a lot of people think there's someone else separating the trash, so they are very reckless about how they are recycling, I think there should be more information about how to recycle and what actually happens after the bins leave our proximity and how reckless recycling makes the effort practically ineffective. Finally, I admire USC for its efforts to include the wider university park population, I think that all these efforts should include the whole neighborhood, not only by sharing information the community but by creating initiatives that create employment, like the USC ambassadors program but related to recycling and sustainability.

Give the office of sustainability teeth to make real change. We should prioritize reducing carbon emissions, saving water, and reducing waste.

Increase zero waste efforts through composting and biodegradable "plastic"

Create leaders who are aware of sustainability

The sustainability initiatives on the UPC campus should also be implemented on the HSC campus. USC should make campus transportation more sustainable by providing passes for public transportation at a free or reduced cost to students. USC should also have a composting program.

start a campaign for recycling of electronic waste at USC, with collection bins at least once per semester

USC has a horrific environmental history; further, USC SUPPORTS sexual harassment. Until it begins to cherish human beings AND the planet upon which we live, there is no hope whatsoever for USC's present or future. Its longstanding failure to take the smallest ecological steps remains a tragedy.

Lab use of plastics, provide sustainable and recycling options

Expanding programs to give leftovers to students need based, then programs that help feed homeless people or refugees. Increase the budget to hire more employees for the sustainability office, and empower them to check in with departments and/or programs.

Subsidize commuting by Amtrak (not only Metro)

Discourage single occupancy vehicles, reduce disposable plastic usage at various cafes and at various events (departmental and institutional), encourage students to bring their own mugs for coffee, spread awareness on composting and recycling (many students just throw everything in trash), reduce electricity consumption, especially lighting and heating in empty buildings.

Pay a fair wage to women and minorities that includes a real cost of living percentage for California. You have homeless employees.

Education; also monitoring what departments are purchasing. Even our office kitchen is all stocked with single-use plastic silverware which is not good for the environment. Working with office managers and administrators to ensure sustainable products are being bought.

Educate people on the choices they make and the resources available to them.

Fire Carol Folt, Mike Bohn, Clay Helton and Steve Lopes.

Public safety needs to continue to foster sustainable efforts around campus. If crime rises, it will negatively impact efforts. Include in admission brochures

Hire better people. Get rid of the dead weight

Increase outreach to academic units to encourage everyday sustainable practices. Increase use of alternative energy, solar panels. Increase plants native to California.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Solar panels on top the rooftops of all parking garages. Require all new buildings to be LEED certified. All new buildings should also be required to have solar panels. Have a recycling facility somewhere on or near campus (like lmu)

Provide incentives for departments and centers to become sustainable in their events planning. So many bring in and entertain guests speakers. So many run lunch & learns, small workshops, and other similar "events." These could all be made sustainable with specific guides created for accessing resources. (In general, USC's incredible bureaucracy around ordering anything mean that setting up any sort of event is difficult already ... streamlining processes in general will help people give time and attention to changing behaviors.)

Increase department budgets so they can afford to purchase sustainable products which cost significantly more than other products. Get the best prices from vendors who offer such products and have it as a purchasing button on e-Market

I am not an expert on sustainability, but it seems to me that given its size and resources, USC should focus on concrete, infrastructural updates & improvements that don't rely on individual/cultural behavior change.

Please make official flyers (or similar) that I can show my students to teach them what and how to recycle. I teach at the International Academy (DCC), and we have hundreds of Chinese students who do not know enough to even care about recycling. Ninalto@usc.edu

- Post/publish concrete things all staff, students and faculty should do regularly to decrease waste. - Cancel business relationship with Amazon Prime - Increase planting of trees and green space throughout campus and surrounding community -Develop and maintain systems-wide practices to decrease waste, increase environmental health **Make environmental health THE priority for the entire university. There is NOTHING more important.

1. Increase Staffing & Funding for Sustainability Office which would partner with ITS EPMO & other USC PMO's to champion a "USC Improvement Management Office". 2. Adopt a powerful Enterprise & Campus-wide LEAN Six Sigma framework with a people based ("teaching others how to fish") approach to identify, implement, & track improvements & reductions of waste & costs in an agile Project approach. ITS EPMO would love to help (Mickey).

Ask the President to adopt the Okanagan Charter for health promoting universities and colleges. "Health promoting universities and colleges transform the health and sustainability of our current and future societies, strengthen communities and contribute to the wellbeing of people, places and the planet." Sustainability is the foundation to promoting health and like sanitation and refrigeration will do more for sapien wellbeing than all the health care we can buy! Best, Paula Swinford

There seems to be a focus on recycling - there needs to be more on just stop using stuff. I've seen piles of plastic salad bowls, piles of cardboard food boxes by the bins, loads of free stuff given out at induction and orientation (bags, pens, various plastic stuff) - USC really needs to stop buying in this stuff. The important thing isn't recycling but moving to 'zero waste' - a circular economy. Recycling is low down in the waste hierarchy. We need to be re-using things before we look to recycling. And simply stop buying things or giving things away. Also - just because things are electric doesn't mean it's fine to use without worry. Electric scooter and use of lifts all use power (I understand coal is still used to produce electricity in LA). Students think they're acting sustainably just because they put their plastic in the recycling bin but they use lifts freely and scooters. Also not enough is done to discourage car use - some UK universities don't allow any student to have a car on campus or park where they live. We have good transit in LA - it's not just about encouraging it's use, it's about discouraging the alternatives.

Implement digital printing Bring your own eating utensil

Eliminate single use plastics and styrofoam from campus. Increase waste sorting bins at HSC

Students living in usc dorms/apartments often leave their lights on when they leave.

I am not a sustainability expert, but I imagine we would want to asses where we are currently creating the biggest negative impact and compare it to what we can do short, medium, and long-term. Also, publicize your efforts with local media (example: Alyssa Walker at Curbed - she is very LA focused and has a team that looks at efforts). Hopefully external eyes will get you some internal support!

Invest to ROI Based Energy Reduction Programs -> Accumulate Energy Cost Savings -> Reinvest into Sustainability 1. Tackle the low hanging fruit by reducing energy consumption (ROI based sustainability) with available City/State Energy Rebate. - LED retrofit (Cuts Lighting Usage by 50%) - Water Efficient Toilet and Urinals Cuts Water Usage by 40%) - Water Efficient Faucets (Cuts Faucet water Usage by 40%) 2. Further Tackle Energy Dependence by Creating Positive-Net Energy Infrastructure - Solar Panels and Battery (Creating and storing at least 50% of energy demand at USC) 3. Re-Invest into Sustainability Programs and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs - EV Charging Stations - Zero-Food Waste - Recycling - Etc

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

I think we need more solar panels.

Communicate more to increase campus-wide participation. Set sustainability goals for staff, faculty and students and regularly publish metrics.

Make sure that new employees know about sustainability initiatives. Make it part of our orientation.

Increase the communication level of these efforts. I strongly believe that the more people are aware of this initiative, the more mindful we will be as a community.

Implement re-usable cups, plates, utensils etc/ Ban single use. Adjust air conditioning (people are freezing/ use heaters) while AC is running. Adjust irrigation in times of rain.

Complete elimination of single use plastic (esp in regards to food) Transition to California native plants in landscaping

Composting near all restaurants on campus

USC is doing a lot of great initiatives, but I think banning single-use-plastics on campus would send a loud message about how committed USC is to sustainability. I really like that idea and hope it gets implemented!

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

We could and should be doing so much more in this area. The US sent 137.7 million tons of trash to landfills in 2015!! With our sheer numbers on and off campus we participate in these numbers in a huge way. Food waste seems dramatic on colleges campuses in both restaurants and surrounding eateries. I recently asked Organix if they composted and they said no, I was SHOCKED. This is something that I was surprised our campus would support. We should have standards in place if they do not already exist where our food establishments, those run by USC, buy local and then cook what is going to expire at the first part of the week and use up what is left toward the end of the week with recipes like frittatas, stir fries chopped salads. Stanford has very high standards for sustainability and it starts with how you orient new staff, students and faculty to the campus - explaining our practices and expectations as a campus and the education for those practices that are happening off campus. I'm surprised every time I see a tree on campus that doesn't serve multiple purposes, we should be planting trees that grow fruit both for our eateries but also for students or those in need (we could have a whole student program dedicated to resourcing our plants to those locally in need). I think USC may have a commitment to low-water landscaping but I'm actually not sure we do and we should. We should easily have gardens ALL over campus in "wasted" areas where all could participate but some are expected, like a student run areas. We should be catching grey water all over campus. Roofs are such a wasted space and could be way better utilized with solar or garden areas. Occidental has a solar farm area, which I live near and has so many practices in sustainability on their campus like their participation in the Real Food Challenge Campus Commitment for years (you should look it up, it's amazing the commitment to real food!). Caltech is also leading the way in sustainability. It doesn't even feel like USC has a foundation for sustainability, even though we've had an office for a long time (but with such little support). I read through the 2020 plan and I had very little knowledge of many of the items listed and wonder how fully they've even been implemented. USC needs a strong foundation in sustainability and in order to do this it needs those in leadership (staff, faculty and students alike) to sing from the mountaintops that this is a priority TODAY for our future and to staff the campus for this effort. We should be in the business of saving our planet as an educational institution. If there was a deep look at the amount of waste on our campus when it comes to just consuming "new" things, I believe it would make our stomachs turn. We have to do more to get closer to zero waste, which means not producing waste in the first place. There should be less purchasing and consuming of new things and education about how to use what we already have. We are educating the next generation in how to care for this planet and this age group could have a great influence on not buying everything new. This includes not buying more to reduce waste. We could have clothing trades on campus, backpacks, skateboards, pens, supplies that are traded, rather than purchased new. In an effort to be more sustainability there has to be a closer look at the amount that is going to waste all across our campus. Food is obvious and an easy way to communicate the desires of the campus but there is SO much more than could be activated. Zero waste is not about buying sustainable products, it's about not buying products at all unless they are absolutely necessary. Keep single use items with you in your bag or car, wash and put them back - this would include things like water bottles, silverware, food containers, straws, napkin. As for water bottles - 1 million plastic water bottles are purchased every MINUTE globally and as few as 7% of them are collected to make new plastic water bottles! But let's also keep in mind that the reusable water bottle is also an industry that is valued at over \$8 Billion so they continue to attract us to a new style, etc and we continue to buy new instead of using what we already own. We could have a day a month or quarter where there is a repair of broken items or clothes - an easy way to keep what you have fix it rather than buying new. Fashion is responsible for 150 billion, YES billion, new garments made every YEAR! We need to contribute to this number going down! The average global consumer bought 60% more clothes in 2014 than in 2000 and kept the clothing about half as long. We also sent 3/5 of these purchases to a landfill or incinerator within a few years of being made. Many of these items are made of plastic (petroleum based polyester, nylon and acrylic). This type of education is so important to our future. USC could easily participate in the 30wear rule, where before purchasing ask yourself if you're really going to wear it at least 30 times to help reduce buying. We could easily do a "trash audit" at USC, poke through sets of trash (eateries, offices, dorms, etc) to see the worst offenders of trash and try to make a switch in targeted areas - for example, if you have a ton of granola bar wrappers start offering batches for purchase rather than encouraging more trash from an individual wrapper. Offer bulk refill purchases on campus. This is on trend right now in Los Angeles, where you can refill your hand soap/dish soap/detergent/lotion, etc. We would be on the cutting edge by offering this type of option on campus. You could include this for food as well. (I have to say when I look around campus it feels like we are stuck in the 90s with our food, creativity, etc in this area - we've kept things the same for so long with little thought to what is changing and would be helpful for our environment. Yes we try to make things "nicer" but not always more innovative. The numbers from Ocean Conservancy in 2018 international coastal clean up are staggering - for example they found over 200k plastic bottles, over 260k plastic bottle caps, over 300k food wrappers and the list goes on. Every educational arm at USC could and, I would say, should have a person who is an expert in sustainability practices that is educating our students on the basics of their chosen field and how to be sustainable. For example, fashion, leather sourcing practices are driving deforestation - we have to take a closer look at the Amazon rain forest links with the fashion, footwear and accessories industries when we are educating our students in Fashion Design. Textile dye is the second largest water polluter (70+ chemicals into the earth) after conventional agriculture. Also, when students are moving or leaving for the summer the mass dumping of unwanted items, clothes, text books, furniture that is left outside/on curbs and into landfills needs some attention. Student and (USC) should be dealing with unwanted things responsibility; sell these items or find local programs to take unwanted items (this is where USC might be able to help students in coordination with local groups). As for USC paraphernalia, we should be selling items that are made from recycled material and come with the least amount of packaging, from the moment it is made to the moment it leaves a USC store. We should encourage shoppers to shop with reusable bags. There are so many ideas and things that USC could be doing - some things that would create big change and cost USC at the bottom line to change (like who we buy from for food, clothing, etc to buy local and items that are not doing more harm to our planet) but also more in line with education both of students but also of staff (starting at the top of leadership) and then hiring more faculty who can speak to this in the classroom or those faculty that are already here that they are required to weave this into their educational practices not for statistical purposes only but for actual change in practices. I hope with our change in leadership that sustainability is held in higher priority at USC, we have a long way to go to make an impact but we can easily do it.

I think all the hospitality and catering outlets at USC need to look at their practices and try to reduce portions, change to zero waste products, etc. For example, when I order buffets from the U Club or Hospitality in say, TCC, the portions are huge. Express Catering sends so much creamer, sugar, condiments with their food. It would be great to have more vegan options to choose from as well when ordering from campus. Thank you for this survey.

Work with campus partners like Aramark. We often see partners that aren't supported in being sustainable (like dumping our office recycling bins into the same large trash can as the trash, as they were only given one rollie bins to do a whole floor, etc).

Quite a bit of paperwork (literally, forms on paper) for our retirement program. And when I say quite a bit, I mean tons!!! It's recycled, but the work should be done digitally.

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Provide easy access to a variety of effective short term and long term birth control options.

More solar power. The top floors of the parking garages would be a great place for panels (shade + power). More sustainable landscaping. We have too many water-thirsty plants, including wasteful expanses of grass. I'm constantly seeing water runoff. We should have only native, drought-resistant plants. Ban all single-use plastics. Every faculty luncheon I attend is an environmental nightmare. Ban bottled water from campus. Lobby Metro to make all public transportation free for all students in L.A. (college, high school, etc.).

Write a better survey. A lot of my answers were misleading or incomplete because I had to choose between selecting & not selecting when something was partially true. Also the rankings: I think a lot of the options were bad, but something had to be #1, etc. USC has plenty of faculty & researchers who are experts on survey design: Someone should've consulted at least one or two when designing this survey

STOP using balloons for campus events. They get loose, they are toxic, they get in storm drains to the ocean. THEY KILL WILDLIFE!!! and helium is becoming more and more scarce. It is shameful to see them on campus.

ban single use plastic and more education on "green options"

Reduce SOV commuting, decrease CO2 emissions from energy, offset plane travel emissions, improve building energy efficiency, reduce procurement of meat in dining, increase online course options

The biggest initiative should be waste reduction followed by clean energy. A campus-wide single-use plastic ban would significantly reduce waste and there are already so many products made of plastic-alternative materials to easily compensate for plastic in every aspect of food consumption and distribution. Increase the amount of sustainable energy produced and used on campus. If buildings cannot be retrofitted to include solar, energy-reducing heating elements, etc. due to the cost, find another way to provide that building with clean energy and reduce energy consumption within the building. All new construction should be net-zero emissions and LEED certified. Drought-resistant landscaping like I see so often on campus. More green areas, but less grass.

offer more incentives to staff for sustainability practices and sustainable office certification; create sustainability policies spearheaded by a president's task force (like a zero tolerance printing policy, food waste/composting policies for events, banning single-use plastic, etc.)

I feel one area that gets overlooked is the amount of energy that is wasted in buildings that have the air-conditioning set so low that we have to wear our coats and some even wear gloves in order to stay warm. When the men, complain you know it is way too cold. I never in my entire career had I used up all my sick time until I moved to one of these buildings that I sit under a vent and have the cold air right on top of me. It took me a while to figure out why i was always not feeling well. I have now have a small space heater that I turn on when it gets way too cold. But not everyone can do that because it blows out fuses and then we have no lights.

Figure out the largest sources of waste or energy consumption on our campuses and implement changes accordingly. Have events and educational campaigns about the small changes students, staff and faculty can make to help USC be more sustainable (e.g. bring your own reusable mugs/water bottles and utensils).

ban single-use plastics sustainable food sourcing renewable energy

Install Solar and other renewable energy on campus. Upgrade insulation and other systems in older buildings

At the Keck campus, we are very behind the times. Sodexo catering uses all Plastic plates, utensils, and cups. Switching to paper would at least be a step in the right direction. Some buildings still stock Styrofoam coffee cups for single use. Again, at least switching to paper would lessen the environmental impact. There are no recycling bins in the hospital and even patients have asked about it/are not impressed. Copies of powerpoint slides are expected to be printed at every meeting even though people throw them away immediately after. If we could only eliminate this expectation, we could significantly reduce our costs on paper, ink, and printer upkeep in addition to lowering our carbon footprint.

1. Why are there so few recycling bins on HSC and associated facilities? 2. The biggest impact to changing commuting behaviors is to make parking charges daily instead of by month since it stops being sunk cost 3. Make a UPC-HSC shuttle stop right next to Expo line station and I could actually take transit to work (right now would be Expo to Gold to Union Station for shuttle which is too many transfers) 4. Increase shuttle frequency dramatically would reduce car trips 5. Have you tried walking around HSC? Pedestrians take second place to cars always and are forced to cut through parking garages etc for shortest path. Especially going to Soto street now with construction, having to walk up to the driveway entrance instead of cutting through parking lot doubles the walk from Keck. Need to take a close look at where pedestrians actually want to go and make paths to accommodate them.

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Continue to encourage NON-CAR ways to get to campus. Give incentives to bike riders. Use more renewable energy sources. Go for ZERO waste as much as possible. Encourage nearby community gardens. Have a small area with pigs and goats to eat the food waste (see Cleveland Convention Center for a great model).

Consider all costs. For example, when removing paper disposable items, which are produced by REMOTE sustainable forest and recycling, how much LOCAL, potentially unsustainable, water and energy are being used to clean reusable items? Is there any rain-water or grey-water collection for use on USC's gardening, fleet vehicle & bus washing, etc? When implementing "renewable" energy sources such as solar panels, how much pollution was created by those panels? How long until the energy and potential pollution "saved" by the solar panels is neutral with the pollution they caused? Will that break-even point come before they need to be replaced due to falling efficiency? Why not have the gym's exercise bicycles create electricity? Why not centralize laundry services per building or group of buildings to conserve water? What is the cost of man-hours and transporting laundry? Does it make up for the water usage of individual laundry loads by on-campus residents? Is all lighting across campus measured in lumens, temperature, CRI, and wattage rather than only by wattage and bulb type? Are there motion sensors in utility areas like in closets or around printers and copiers and kitchens, where the lights are only sometimes necessary? Is the University offering local and sustainable housing nearby for faculty and staff? Is the University surveying housing costs around the campus to facilitate local/sustainable living? What is the cost in man-hour-dollars of employees taking 2 hours of public transportation rather than 45 minutes of solo commuting? Is that putting workers who take public transportation at a disadvantage? Does USC only accept deliveries at FTL (full truck load) to optimize delivery sustainability? Does USC own it's own tables and chairs, or does it ship them in for every event on trucks?

encourage schools to go digital/reduce the amount of print materials used for meetings, conferences, classes, etc.

Offer more flex work and schooling options. The majority of our emissions are related to commuting.

Offer compost, recycle, and landfill bins EVERYWHERE, and increase education of faculty, staff, and students so they know what counts as something that can be composted, what can be recycled, and what goes into the trash. Also would be great to have "rinse off" stations where people can rinse their recyclable containers before putting them in the bins.

decrease number of cars with one passenger, recycle so recyclables do not go into trash (as at least some do now (I've seen custodians toss discards from blue recycle bins into trash), increase green roofs and living walls

Just copy Stanford, Berkeley, Davis

Realize that certain things you suggest have potentially unintended consequences for those that work here

stop food waste, and avoid single use plastics.

Continue to encourage staff to take Metro/public transit, have recycling bins readily available at all locations, continuously educate staff, faculty and students about campus resources and sustainability in general. Offer fun challenges, incentives for doing more to protect the environment at USC and at home.

Donate and compost! There are so much food waste in USC. I wish more are being utilize to give back to the community and also composted to be reused. Edible can be given to low income residents around the neighborhood, food bank, and homeless. Food waste, coffee grounds, old plants and etc. can be composted and become fertilizer. This can be used on existing plants and trees around the university and possibly given out to people who are interested in growing plants.

Encourage carpooling and support for electric vehicles. Maybe increase costs for single driver parking and offer priority parking to carpool drivers. Reduce parking costs for electric vehicles.

I currently work at the USC Tower downtown and there seems to be no recycling bins, everything just gets tossed into one trash can. Perhaps the building sorts it? I have seen employees taking their own recycling home though, which is just sad. Implementing recycling at the Tower would be super helpful, I feel like this survey is only looking at the main campus. Additionally, the entire office uses extremely wasteful plastic coffee systems with single-use packets and pods. I get that people will rebel against this, but we really should not be using university funds for this if we are claiming we are sustainable. We should go back to having large communal pots of coffee and ban offices from using these hugely wasteful pods.

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Make it easier for students, faculty and staff to choose sustainable options by investing in those options and making the impact clear. For instance, it would be great to see more of the filtered water stations throughout campus. Also, there is a lot of confusion around office recycling bins - please clarify this. Everyone sees that the recycling bin materials just get combined with regular trash in offices. We have been told that USC pays a company to sort then trash but in today's recycling it is my understanding that clean, dry paper is much more recyclable than mixed/dirty trash - so what is happening here?

Contract with a housekeeping company that actually recycles the items placed in blue bins. Get rid of single-use plastic.

USC should take a strong look at what recycling is being done inside of its offices on and off campus. Although there are recycling bins inside of the buildings and offices at USC, I have witnessed bags of recycling being disposed of in the exact same cans as trash in almost every instance. There needs to be a concerted effort and retraining of the facilities team if any measurable difference is going to be made. Additionally, the lack of sustainable energy on campus is a tragedy considering we are one of the best regions in the country for solar.

1. Improve energy efficiency on campus 2. Invest in more renewable energy on campus and in the local community 3. Divest its portfolio of investments of companies involved in fossil fuels

1. Decrease single occupancy vehicles and thus traffic getting into and leaving campus. 2. Keep contents of recycling bins separate from trash bins - we see items in recycling bins being dumped into the trash bins. Mixed waste processing significantly decreases recyclable items to be recycled, because some trash will contaminate perfectly recyclable items. 3. There should be water refilling stations in every building on campus.

Offer smaller portions at food venues. Half sandwich as an example. It seem to me a lot of food gets wasted

Make the campus fully sustainable. Make people more aware of sustainability. We only have one planet.

Landscape with more native/drought tolerant plants!

Recycle

ban on single use plastics, using a more sustainable energy source- wind or solar, meatless Mondays

banning single use plastics is first and foremost, more composting opportunities around campus, include bulk items in farmers market (ae rice, beans, grains), I think expanding vegan options at USC is also important - meatless Mondays at the village dining hall would be a good idea to as to make students more aware and active in sustainable eating

Continue to educate the USC community about ways to be more sustainable through info graphics, guest speakers and initiatives. Ban single use plastics. Offer opportunities for the USC community to get involved to help as well.

Telecommuting for some workers would really increase sustainability, as it would cut down on transport to/from office and need for more office space (perhaps requiring doubling up in office as well)--particularly for USC Rossier where I work, as the school is looking to consolidate its presence from City Center to just WPH.

Plastics and waste reduction. Less consumption in general. We need to greatly improve our academic program structure to increase the organizing ability of those who believe in sustainability on campus to coalesce and create more momentum. Less of a laundry list approach, more all above. More transit subsidies for undergrads.

Ban use of non-compostable/recyclable products not just in dining halls but from Office Depot/Alta, etc. that is ordered by each office/department throughout campus.

Transportation would be one of the biggest hindrances to USC becoming more sustainable. Offer incentives for staff who are ride-sharing or for those carpooling with spouses and not parking on campus.

Please increase paper, plastic and battery recycling bins at HSC campus especially. They should be distributed to all departments in all buildings.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Decreases plastic use (water bottles, straws, bags), increase electric vehicle fleet, encourage composting across campus (not just in residence halls).

Enforce no ordering of single use plastics campus wide. Discourage trash bins in every single office (trash bins all have plastic bags so if janitors pick up 100 trash bins, all with a plastic bag, thats a lot of plastic!). If using single use plastic, switch to white plastic as black plastic is less recyclable.

Focus on large scale events that create large amounts of waste, look into options that are less wasteful, more water stations, more public transportation options

Lowering transportation carbon emissions through incentive programs Discounted parking passes for EVs and hybrids Subsidies for carpools/vanpools Discounted passes for EVs/hybrids Current price: \$359.50/semester Lower to \$250 for EVs Make up costs through charging fees at EV stations Subsidies for faculty vanpools/carpools Current program: subsidizes public transit costs for faculty Register van/carpools Cover up to 50% of carpool costs In the form of a discounted parking pass or fuel costs

Reduce potable water usage through the implementation of waterless urinals. Urinals use up a large amount of potable water that could be used for other purposes. Not to mention, there is an abundance of urinals on campus. Hence, by switching to waterless urinals we would be able to save a large amount of potable water.

My team in POSC 265 suggested that single occupancy vehicles and the amount of emissions students and faculty emit commuting to campus to be big issues that need to be addressed. The school currently does not have optimal alternatives to reduce SOVs. Furthermore, the difficulty to get carpool permits, communicate faculty and student travel plans, and integrated payment with school services are not addressed. Our team created an app called Chariot, a rideshare app that allows students and faculty to list their travel plans, connect with one another, and split permit bills to make the procedure more accessible and easy. By implementing Chariot, this will reduce the SOVs currently on camus and inherently reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Hydroponics systems, composting systems

Operating a research laboratory produces high energy costs--they consume 5 times more energy than the average home. Any small changes in energy conservation that can be made and maintained in a laboratory can amount to significant savings in energy emissions and cost over time. Many universities across the nation have implemented small changes in their laboratory protocol to reduce energy expenditure. We believe an effective first step USC laboratories can take would be to implement a "Shut the Sash" program. According to the University of Maryland, data for two fume hoods included in their "Shut the Sash" program has yielded an annual CO2 reduction of 41,756 lbs. Similarly, Harvard also implements a "Shut the Sash" program and estimates utility savings of \$200,000-\$250,000 per year, with a greenhouse gas emissions savings at 300-350 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. We predict that small behavior changes such as remembering to close fume hood sashes when not in use can contribute to USC experiencing similar monetary and emissions savings in the long run.

Our proposal is to expand the USC teaching garden with 40 tower gardens. By doing so, we can decrease the amount of carbon emissions needed to transport the produce needed for dining halls and continue to promote aeroponic farming. USC can also implement "Green Cookout Days" every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9am, 2pm, and 7pm to teach students about sustainable food practices. Encouraged by faculty, students can use these cooking lessons to remain educated in living a sustainable lifestyle and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by eating organic meals with more vegetables and less meat.

One of the most important things USC can do to be more sustainable is create a partnership with Food Recovery Network and donate all excess food from dining halls to local organizations. This will drastically cut down on food waste.

Looking at the majority of students and even staff that eat out on a regular basis, I propose that we must start encouraging students to bring their own utensils and bottles instead of using the ones provided by restaurants to go. We must provide some sort of incentive – either monetary or intrinsic in order to have more people use their own reusable utensils instead of the one time use and throw ones.

USC should consider implementing key card activated light switches in all USC housing that required ID-cards to enter the resident's room. This would decrease unnecessary light usage and increase environmental awareness from students. USC could have potential energy cost savings on the scale of thousands per year, and greenhouse gas savings could occur on the scale of 3 to 9 tons per year. The effects of this project would last long into the future, instilling the habit of turning off the lights when you leave the room in students who live in USC residential housing.

First USC must prioritize clean energy for all of its buildings and campus resources. Energy and its procurement is the leading cause of carbon emissions, and we have the capability to go 100% clean energy via solar panels. Second USC must focus on sustainable transportation that reduces the number of cars students take to school and provide a public transit that is both clean and efficient.

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According to the EPA, heating is one of the human activities that account for the greatest amount of greenhouse gas emissions. For this reason, we chose to focus on this aspect of the energy conservation sector to make USC more sustainable. We began our research by viewing the USC Digital Energy Dashboard website and identifying that the air conditioning usage as the major source of electricity usage and greenhouse gas emissions. Since the heating and cooling sector contributes 51.5% of the USC campus electricity usage, we decided to further explore the possibility to reduce the energy consumption of the air conditioning. As seen in the table below, heating and cooling is the single most electricity usage-heavy function within our campus buildings: After the research, we decided to further explore the ideas of the LADWP's Demand Response Program implementing with new IoT systems. USC has participated in the LADWP's Demand Response (DR) Program in the summer of 2019 and achieved a drop of 833 kW within four hours DR event on July 25th. Based on the LADWP DR Program's idea, we proposed to develop a program that has participants (i.e. classrooms and buildings) make temporary adjustments and requests to reduce the energy during the periods of peak demand to relieve stress on the electricity system and improve efficiency. We found that the IoT system could provide a good algorithm to provide human-computer interactions, manage the users' demand requests and regulate the air-conditioning system through the cloud network. Basically, each person can send online request to change temperature in certain rooms on campus once a day; the IoT system then can compute the best temperature regulations based on the requests, room temperature, outdoor temperature and electricity usage. The real-time computing can reduce power peak during hot or cold days and lower consecutive hours of AC compressor; even more, the system allows students and staff to alter the AC temperature, avoiding the indoor temperature being too cold during summer or too warm during the winter. The proposed system will be implemented as a supplementary system to the current USC Energy Control System and Events2HVAC software for 15 buildings and 242 classrooms. A specific timetable of our ideal plan for implementation of the project is as follows: in 2-3 months, we hope to upgrade our current USC energy management and control systems, both in terms of their hardware and software, so that they may be compatible and easily-integrated with our IoT technology once it is fully developed. In 4-5 months, we will begin advertising and marketing the program through USC's mobile apps, websites, and other digital platforms. If possible, we will also talk with USC housing about maybe creating a small poster that can be placed inside residential buildings to notify students living on-campus about how the technology works and how it helps them reduce their energy usage. By the half year mark, we hope to initiate our first test-runs of the proposed plan at newer USC buildings. Throughout this process, we will record and track data on the differences in AC energy usage that we are able to achieve. By the 8-11 month mark, we hope to implement the IoT system across all University Park Campus buildings and collect user feedback. In one year's time, we hope to have collected enough data to analyze and make needed adjustments to the limits on AC usage, better optimizing the system to the different levels of energy demand throughout the day, week, and month. If this project indeed turns out to be successful not only in reducing USC's greenhouse gas emissions, but also in maintaining and not impeding the lifestyles of students, we will look at plans for phase 2: the implementation for other electronics on campus (i.e. lighting), as well as implementation at the Health Sciences Campus as well.

USC Airporter The University of Southern California has lots of room for improvement in the department of sustainability, namely transportation. While the free Lyft program is great, it creates a lot of extra motor traffic that could otherwise just be foot traffic; while there are multiple Metro bike rental stations, they are rarely used; public transportation is largely underutilized and there is very little promotion of their use on behalf of the university. These issues certainly need to be acted upon, however, they are issues that the university has already taken a first step toward improving. One issue that has not been addressed, but we believe is a big issue that should be addressed is the lack of transportation available to and from both the airport, specifically during times in which there are high numbers of students and faculty traveling to and from the airport. During these times when everyone is trying to get to the airport, the amount of Lyfts and Ubers transferring students is very high; it is impossible to get a ride but when you do get a ride, actually leaving campus takes forever due to the gridlock. Not only does this cause a huge traffic jam around campus and a shortage of available Lyfts/Ubers but it leads to a large increase in USC-caused emissions. If we were able to find a way to reduce the amount of Uber's/Lyft's that were taking people to and from the airport during busy times, specifically holidays and during recesses, not only could we help the environment, but we could make this transportation easier for students and faculty. This proposal would not be the first of its kind, in fact, it is already being done at another university with great success. Currently, the University of Santa Clara offers a free shuttle to the airport that leaves every 15 minutes. Other schools offer similar benefits to their students and faculty. For example, Stanford offers a free "Vanpool" as well as free bus passes. Almost all major universities offer incentives for using more eco-friendly forms of transportation. Considering all this, there is no reason why USC should have any trouble implementing any of the features of our proposal. We believe that if USC were to implement a shuttle system - similar to one you would find connecting car rental services with airports - it would greatly improve the process of leaving or returning to USC during holidays, recesses, etc. This could be implemented in a number of ways. We could somehow find a way to organize how you can get a lift during busy times. This could entail a Lyft share service like the one that was recently implemented at LAX. USC could also partner with a service like SuperShuttle to do something similar so that the number of single rider Lyfts and Ubers are reduced. While both of these options are certainly viable, we have concluded that the most efficient and environmentally friendly way to implement this would be a bus shuttle to the airport. This would simply entail having a number of buses driving from campus to LAX and back and designated time periods. We would need to determine a number of logistical issues in order to actualize the plan. We would need to establish the location of pick up and drop off, both at USC and at LAX and how often they would arrive at the bus stops. We would also need to establish the route as well, who would drive the buses, and what buses would be used. There would also be the issue of cost, whether we would charge students and staff for it or not charge anything. The implementation that we have decided would work best is detailed below. While it would be much more environmentally friendly to buy all new electric buses for both the shuttle service and regular use, they are incredibly expensive at around \$750,000 a bus. It is very unlikely that the university would be willing to pay for this as 10-15 buses would be required for this. So, we could use some of the buses that USC currently owns to drive the routes. While, this would force the university to reduce the rate at which buses stop at the other university bus routes, during these times there will be fewer students using them anyway, so this would not be a big issue. As far as drivers go, some of the bus drivers already employed by the university could drive these routes. Not only does the university already know these drivers can be trusted to drive responsibly, but it would be much cheaper than finding and vetting new bus drivers. Due to the timing that these shuttles would occur, a bonus can be offered in order to incentivize drivers to drive. The route could be easily determined upon further consideration but for the purpose of this proposal, we have deemed it unnecessary. We plan to offer the shuttle rides for free for all students and faculty in order to incentivize students and staff to take this form of greener transportation. While gas for buses is expensive, the periods of time during which these shuttles are operating are very small and we believe it is an expense the university can very easily afford. To further analyze and break down our proposal we will put it through SWOT analysis. To start with the strengths, this proposal would reduce the CO2 emissions produced by USC students and faculty when leaving for the airport during recesses and holidays. Additionally, this plan would reduce traffic around SC and make it easier to get a Lyft or Uber if that is the option you choose. As a part of this proposal, the shuttle would be free for all students and faculty. Some weaknesses include the fact that there is a wait time for the bus as it only arrives every 30 minutes. Additionally, some people might prefer an Uber or Lyft considering with a Lyft/Uber they have their own personal ride and can sit in the back of a nice car. It also might take

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slightly longer given the fact that the bus has to stop at every terminal; if your terminal is not the first one, you have to wait an extra amount of time that you wouldn't have to wait if you had just taken an Uber/Lyft. Some of the opportunities associated with this proposal include expanding the shuttles to other locations like Union Station or the Burbank airport. Additionally, if the shuttles are very popular we can increase the rate at which buses come around to every 15 minutes instead of 30. Lastly, probably the only threat to the proposal is that people don't use the shuttle; this could happen if the shuttle isn't advertised well and people don't hear about it. While it is obvious that this service would drastically reduce the amount of single-occupancy vehicles going to LAX during holiday times, calculating the exact amount of emissions reduced is difficult, based on the fact that this calculation depends on the frequency of the service and the amount of students in the equation. Taking this into account, the calculations we conducted use a variety of situations that consider different amounts of trips that could be made over the course of the year. Since this service would be based from USC's campus, our calculations assume that the primary consumers will be a collection of the 5972 students that live on campus. In the first half of the calculations, we take one scenario in which 2500 of the students independently use Uber or Lyft and another scenario where 5000 students use them. We estimate that one-way trips to the airport from campus contribute about 8.570 to 17.134 Tonnes of CO₂, and doubling that amount would make it include trips back from the airport. It is important to clarify that this amount of CO₂ is emitted every single time a student makes a trip to or from the airport, which happens a number of times per year. In contrast to these staggering numbers, the projected emissions from our service are much lower. Taking into account the estimated 20 days the service will run during the year and different amount of trips that could be made in a given day, we have provided three possibilities. In the scenario where 32 trips are made per day, 14.9 Tonnes of CO₂ are emitted; in the scenario where 46 trips are made per day, 21.4 Tonnes of CO₂ are emitted; and in the scenario where 64 trips are made per day, 29.8 Tonnes of CO₂ are emitted. Yet it is important to note that these are the amounts over the course of the entire year, not per trip. Comparing the numbers, it is clear that our service can exponentially lower the amount of emissions emitted by students per year. In order to realistically judge this service, we must discuss its cost-benefit analysis. The introduction of this service requires no short-term costs; however, if the university wanted to purchase new buses or create new infrastructure to organize this service, then it would require large upfront costs that may deter the university's interest. In the long run, basic costs such as wage, fuel fees, and vehicle maintenance are necessary, but are already managed by the university and would require only more frequency rather than any new method. Though costs such as fuel and wages are completely dependent on whether the type of fuel and bus the service uses and frequency of trips. While some possible costs are high, the service includes an immense reduction in university-caused emissions and would drastically reduce the amount of traffic in the area surrounding USC. Though in the scenario where USC simply reallocates its current supply of buses to carry out this service, it provides a relatively low cost for a service that has an extremely high potential to reduce emissions. Being that this idea has many factors regarding its implementation, there are various obstacles that could hinder its potential; however, that is not to say that there are not ways to overcome the obstacles. Firstly, one of the most important obstacles is convincing students to use this service over the likes of Lyft and Uber. One of the advantages that ride-share services has over is that they take customers from exactly when they want, to exactly where they want. In order to challenge this, we have identified certain possible solutions: targeting students on campus in order to advertise more locational convenience, creating an abundance of departure times, and promoting the fact that the service is without cost. Secondly, another obstacle would be concerns over if new, expensive buses need to be purchased in order to supply this service to students. In order to overcome this, there is the possibility of alumni donations or even adding a small fee to students using the service, but the best solution would be to reallocate our current bus supply while the service is running. While this would disrupt the original bus routes, it would only be necessary during times the service is in use and wouldn't require significant funds to use. A third and crucial obstacle is figuring out the optimal and most efficient amount of buses and trips needed for the service. The only true solution to this obstacle is through trial and error, figuring out which times have the most demand. In addition to this, surveys could be sent out that gauge the overall interest and those numbers would be used to schedule. Lastly, a logistical obstacle is limiting instances in which there are conflicts regarding bus availability. In order to mitigate this, we would implement an RSVP system where students must reserve their spot in order to avoid situations where students outnumber the amount of seats available. In spite of the various obstacles, the sheer amount of emissions that can be reduced through this type of program is important when considering USC's 2020 sustainability goals for transportation. This service would drastically reduce the amount of single-occupancy vehicles during transportation heavy periods and increase participation in alternative transportation programs. With the global climate crisis continuing to worsen, action is needed not only on the global stage, but also in local contexts. Through this service, the USC community will become more conscious of the current problem and easily able to help mitigate it.

Conserve more water through recycling/ more efficient appliances taht use water

Engage students. Not only for education of future generations but also to implement new, creative ideas that students are willing to be committed to.

Our proposal is a continuation and expansion of USC's on-campus garden and use of aeroponics technologies, with the goal of sourcing 100% of its fresh produce (vegetables, herbs, fruits) in dining halls and restaurants (excluding established fast food chains/restaurants, such as Starbucks) from its on-campus gardens by 2030. In order to do so, USC must expand its current garden and at least triple the number of aeroponics vertical garden towers (180 total vertical garden towers) to supply fresh produce to all USC-owned restaurants and dining halls. Vertical aeroponics farming towers use up to "95 percent less water and over 90 percent less land" than traditional agricultural practices (Cho). Aeroponics towers are also "over 390 times more productive per square foot" and capable of harvesting "80 percent more per unit of area" than traditional agricultural practices ("Environmental Impact," Cho). Thus, by increasing the amount of vertical aeroponic towers on USC's campus so that all of USC's fresh produce is sourced directly from its on-campus gardens, USC will significantly reduce its water and land usage for farming, increase its food production yield, and decrease "harmful transportation emissions by 98%" ("Environmental Impact").

Switch from paper napkins to linen napkins in the dining halls.

Create incentives for shared transportation program and add programs like bike-sharing

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Our proposal is to have key-card activated lights. This would mean that lights would not turn on without a key card in the device and would turn off once the key card is no longer in the device. This would help ensure that we are saving energy by keeping the lights off when they are not being used. We would want to start by installing this system in the bedrooms of residential halls that already use ID cards for their door locks (McCarthy, Webb, Fluor, Parkside, Birnkrant) since they need their ID to get in and out of their rooms and would therefore have to take their ID out of the slot when they leave.

Our proposal is to create a Pokemon Go-inspired credit-earning app/AR game that incentivizes people to take more sustainable transportation methods. The app tracks distance walked, carpooled, or taken on public transportation and rewards the user accordingly. For example, the user earns 10 SCoins for each .5 km walked, 5 SCoins for each 1 km of carpooling, etc. and users can trade in SCoins for dining dollars, USC merchandise, coupons and discounts, gift cards, and other prizes. As users earn SCoins, users also earn an equivalent amount of a separate currency of Virtual coins that they can use to take care of a personalized AR pet that interacts with others' virtual pets. When these pets are properly maintained, users can earn a bonus number of credits at the end of each week, which incentivizes users to aim for consistency. Furthermore, the app will have a team and individual leaderboards for the highest SCoin earners, of which the top team and the top 3 or 10 individuals at the end of the semester will gain a special bonus or prize (such as dining dollars).

Our proposal for the local sustainability challenge consists of converting the printed welcome brochures at USC housing to digital format. Creating a mobile app to easily access housing regulations and address questions or concerns. In collaboration with USC's Sustainability Office, this idea will help with ongoing efforts to make sustainability an integral part of campus life at USC. As for our timetable of steps for carrying this idea out we plan to introduce to incoming freshmen during Welcome week. Before we worked out the details of our proposal, we wanted to have an idea of the effects of paper waste on the environment. Our initial research found that California produced 225,482 tons of paper waste in 2014, and we expect the numbers from recent years to increase from 2014. Besides paper waste, we also realized that the process of making paper emits large amounts of CO₂. According to the EPA, 25,720 tons of CO₂ emissions resulted from pulp and paper manufacturing. After this initial research, we feel compelled to use our proposal in reducing paper waste and GHG emissions associated with paper manufacturing. To assess the scale of our project, we retrieved data from the USC Admissions website as well as the USC Housing website. According to these sources, there are currently 48,500 students enrolled at USC, and 30% of these students live on-campus. Since USC Housing gives out a 20-page welcome brochure to every single on-campus resident, it would be printing approximately 14,550 brochures a year. We used the Paper Calculator from the Environmental Paper Network to calculate the impact of our proposal. Because USC has recycle programs already in place on-campus, we decided to go with an aggressive assumption that half of the brochures printed will be recycled. However, even with that assumption, USC is still emitting 10,800 pounds of CO₂ and 1,520 pounds of H₂CO₃, using up 17,300 gallons of water, and producing 939 pounds of solid waste in making these welcome brochures. Our proposal to convert to a mobile application will eliminate all of these waste and emission.

Our proposal is to increase food recovery in USC Dining Halls by partnering with Food Recovery Network and to deliver leftover food to homeless organizations, community centers in low-income areas, and food banks.

USC should take a look at residential halls and the amount of water and electricity they waste. Given these students are most likely new to living alone, as well as have fixed utilities, they are the highest consumer of utilities with nothing directing them to conserve.

Every day, students and faculties spend a majority of time inside the academic and administrative buildings. There is a lot of trash that needs to be thrown away inside those buildings. Currently, there are a lot of trash bins inside the USC academic or administrative building, but recycling bins are not very accessible. Many students and faculties do not have time to carry trash around in order to find recycling bins and therefore a lot of recyclable items were found inside landfill bins. This phenomenon is causing a lot of waste of recycling items and also requires much more time and effort for custodial staff to separate recyclable items and normal landfill trash. Our proposed innovation is to increase the number of recycling bins by 20% on each floor in every USC academic and administrative building. Our plan is to first target high traffic building such as Leavey Library, Taper Hall, Von Kleinsmid Center, Seeley G. Mudd, etc. and then spread out to more buildings across the campus. Besides simply placing those recycling bins, we want to place informative instruction labels to help students and faculty members recognize trash categories and place trash into the right bins.

USC should focus on developing more sustainable infrastructure in residential housing and create a more focused program for increasing sustainable food procurement.

USC should encourage stores and restaurants in the USC Village to offer discounts or rewards to customers who bring their own cups/utensils/bags/etc. For example, Sunlife Organics could offer a \$0.10 discount when customers bring their own utensils and Tupperware in order to reduce plastic usage.

I propose the implementation of the USCommunity Garden Project. The USCommunity Garden Project is a multifaceted expansion of already existing gardens on USC campus. The goal of the USCommunity Garden Project is to not just grow food, but also serve the community, and provide an innovative model for what a sustainable university looks like in the age of the climate crisis. 1. Repurposing Space: Will evaluate spaces not used to their full potential, and find creative ways to plant there. 2. Growing Food: All food grown in the garden will go to the surrounding community and/or USC dining halls. 3. Water Recycling: Reused water will irrigate the garden, from connection to the purple pipe, rainwater collection, etc. 4. Food Waste Diversion: a) Compost systems on campus will be expanded, and compost will be used in the garden, and b) Other food (that's good but "waste") from dining halls given to those in need. 5. Community & Student Engagement & Education: a) Education on sustainable practices & urban gardening, for USC students & surrounding community, b) Community engagement: events at the garden, food goes to surrounding community, etc. and c) Student involvement: study of sustainable practices, volunteer and/or work-study jobs in garden.

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Proposal - As a way to reduce energy consumption and increase student body engagement in sustainability efforts on campus, we recommend replacing the old exercise equipment in the Lyon Center gym with equipment from SportsArt. SportsArt Eco-Pwr equipment line captures the energy created during a workout and uses the stored energy to power the building the equipment is in. While students use the equipment, they are able to track how many watts they have generated during their exercise. USC could save money on electricity due to reduced electricity consumption, engage the student body, and increase the sustainability initiatives on campus. Here is a link for SportsArt Eco-Pwr equipment line. <https://www.gosportsart.com/eco-pwr-line/> The equipment pays for itself through its electricity-saving aspect. This idea was pitched in the POSC 265 class.

Stop thinking about money first. It's harder to be sustainable when you always need to find a way to make money out of it. It is realistic no, but being sustainable means profit will be smaller compared to if you are not being sustainable.

Jet air dryers are increasing in popularity due to new technology that decreases dry time and the use of HEPA filters to make drying hygienic. We propose installing energy efficient, fast-drying jet air hand dryers in bathrooms in all high traffic building on UPC, and removing paper towel dispensers. Two examples of such hand dryers are the XLERATOReco and the Dyson Airblade V. We suggest installing dryers in a few high traffic buildings first, such as in Taper Hall or the Von KleinSmid Center and surveying student opinion. Then systematically installing dryers and removing paper towels in bathrooms in all high traffic buildings on UPC. Eco friendly hand dryers use low wattage, so the energy costs are low. We estimate a payback period between 6 and 12 months before the savings from switching from paper towels to hand dryers will make back the money invested in installing the hand dryers, initially. Not only will this be saving USC money, switching from paper towels to hand dryers results in a 99% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (based on the XLERATOReco model). In addition to the cost and environmental savings, hand dryers create cleaner bathrooms because, currently, trash cans quickly fill up with paper towels and often times paper towels can be found all over the floors. Because there is less need for waste disposal, there is also less maintenance required in the bathrooms.

Our proposal to USC is the complete removal of paper use when there are other possible options available. This proposal involves reducing the use of non-recycled paper at three levels: offices, students, and school facilities. Each of these three areas of USC use a significant amount of paper and so purchasing paper that is better for the environment is a large step in the right direction. For office use, all documents are to be uploaded and stored on a cloud. Realistically, paper is not necessary for almost all documents, especially when we have such easy access to technology. For documents that are absolutely necessary to exist in physical form, recycled paper should be used. Recycled paper produces a lot less CO2 emissions while maintaining the nature of normal paper. Using recycled paper reduces the university's carbon footprint without sacrificing the quality of the product. For student use, all assignments are to be uploaded digitally to Blackboard, handouts are to be accessed digitally, and notes are to be taken digitally (or on recycled paper if absolutely necessary). There is no legitimate reason that students would not be capable of taking their notes on their computers and uploading their assignments to Blackboard, so this proposal is very reasonable. For school facilities use, we propose that all restaurants and stores on campus provide digital receipts in place of physical ones, the use of single-ply toilet paper in all on-campus restrooms, and the use of toilet paper and paper towels made from recycled materials. The use of digital receipts eliminates the need to purchase receipt paper. Single-ply toilet paper is cost efficient and will produce less waste. Purchasing toilet paper and paper towels made from recycled materials increases the school's level of sustainability. Each of these are practical and eco-friendly alternatives to the current system that is in place. The final goal for this proposal is to be 100% sustainable in regards to paper use and purchasing in three stages. In 2018, USC paper and office supply purchasing was 8.71% sustainable. Our proposal commits USC to being 25% sustainable by January 2020, 50% sustainable by January 2021, and finally 100% sustainable by January 2022.

App that gives students points for choosing to walk to school / around campus instead of taking forms of transportation 1 point for every 500 steps (semesterly) Depending on how many steps you take, you can cash out walking points for discounts around USC: Bookstore, Restaurants at the Village, Restaurants on campus, Participating stores within a 2 mile radius More points gets you more discounts Would increase participation in an alternative form of transportation

-reducing emissions through transportation (more walking)

I think that USC should try to make more things electronic, instead of wasting paper for example. All syllabus should be online, so that way teachers do not have to hand it out during class. Also, USC should install more solar panels around campus and that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by a good amount. Another thing is making students more aware about what can be done to make the campus more sustainable. Many students are not well informed about the climate change crisis and what USC can be doing be apart of making the planet a better place. Overall, there are numerous of ways USC can make the campus more sustainable, but ultimately it depends on if USC is willing to spend the money to create an environmental friendly campus.

I think USC should invest in putting solar panels on my rooftops of buildings, which will save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

As part of POSC-265, we would like to propose an expansion of the free Lyft program to include e-scooters. Assuming 1/3 of all free lift rides were replaced by scooter uses, our calculations show \$850,000 and 184 tonnes CO2e of savings per school year.

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In order to be more sustainable, USC should reduce their food waste in the dining hall, reduce the water wasted from toilet usages, and reduce the amount of electricity wasted from lighting. This is because we notice a large portion of waste, water, and/or electricity is emitted from these processes. USC could reduce these emissions through changing to waterless toilets, switching to automatic lights in USC Housing buildings - if not all buildings, or even through placing signs or others that promote a reduction in food waste in the dining halls.

Composting bins and waste diversion overall. Electronic vehicles are also very important

USC should look even further into waste diversion. There's still thousands of tons of waste being disposed of in the school, with a lot being food waste at the dining halls. The plan of implementing food servers at different stations could work to mitigate the amount of food waste generated. It would not only help the environment but also help with student health problems.

According to the USC Sustainability's 2018 progress report, only one percent of commuters at USC use an electric vehicle. While this is up from 2016, when electric vehicles made up only .12 percent of commuter vehicles. In the parking garages on both the University Park Campus and Health Sciences Campus, there are a total of 129 electric charging stations, with some in every garage. However, the cost of parking is very expensive, even for alternative vehicles. One way that USC can incentivize the use of carbon neutral electric vehicles or hybrid vehicles is by reducing the cost of parking passes for those vehicles. For the University Park Campus, the current cost of a parking pass per semester averages \$359.25. Parking passes vary per garage, vehicle type (motorcycle versus car) and whether the person purchasing the pass is on the University Park Campus or the Health Sciences Campus. Electric vehicles have a designated price of \$364.50 per semester, which is still higher than the average cost of a pass and higher than the prices for off campus housing garages (\$359.50 per semester) and evening-only passes (\$225 per semester). In order to encourage the commuters who are using the garages and purchasing the parking passes to be more eco- friendly, USC should incentivize the use of electric vehicles. This can be done by discounting the parking passes for electric vehicles. USC needs the income from parking, so they cannot make electric vehicle passes free, but lowering the price substantially would encourage more electric vehicles in the garages, thus lowering transportation emissions. Discounting the electric vehicle passes to \$295 per semester would keep the university's income, but incentivize drivers to use an electric vehicle and emit less carbon on their commutes. The money that the university would lose from the discount would be made up with the small fees for charging in the EV spots. Currently, it costs 25 cents per hour while charging, then \$3 per hour after charging is complete. By adding more charging stations, USC can make up the cost of the permits with charging fees, while still encouraging the use of electric vehicles. Another way in which USC can lower transportation emissions is by subsidizing a portion of the costs for van and carpools. There is a program in place in which USC subsidizes 50 percent of the costs for faculty and staff who use public transit as a way to get to campus. By extending this to van and carpools, USC would be encouraging more people to carpool to campus and reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles commuting to campus. With more carpools coming in, there would be fewer cars on campus in total, but in the event that there are not enough spots, then adding more designated carpool spots would help this potential challenge. Currently, there are 296 designated carpool and vanpool parking spots, and adding more of these spots in favorable places, i.e. near exits and elevators, would also encourage carpooling. The cost coverage would be in the form of a discounted parking pass or coverage of fuel costs. Both of these proposals could be carried out for the 2020-2021 academic year. Since there is little actual construction involved in lowering the parking pass costs and potentially installing extra charging stations, this could be implemented quickly.

Considering how much of an impact we can have in reducing CO2 emissions from water bottle usage, we believe that more efforts should be done to continue this sustainability effort. This is why we propose that a plastic bottle waste reduction program be implemented on campus which would entail installing more hydration stations on campus as well as provide hydration flasks for students. Any newly admitted undergraduate or transfer student should be eligible to receive their hydration flasks the day of orientation with the use of their USC card in order to appropriately keep track of who received the complimentary gift. In addition, those that are not able to attend orientation can pick up their flask at any convenience store on campus with the available funds on their card. Conversations should also be held with dining facilities, campus markets, and vendors that install vending machines in order to rid of all existing plastic bottles on campus and prevent students from purchasing these items. This will then better support the implementation of hydration flasks, especially in high traffic areas on campus (ie. athletic facilities, dorms, or high use campus buildings) which will be key in encouraging students to use their hydroflasks.

Get rid of plastic use on campus (vending machines, dining facilities, markets), install more hydration stations, and install more recycling bins. Provide transportation means especially within the campus proximity (scooters, bicycles).

Our proposal is to send waste water blowdown from cooling towers through filtration processes, to reduce water loss and subsequently water consumption in these heat regulatory systems. Generally, most people are not aware of the presence of cooling towers at USC, and subsequently their function and their tremendous water usage is often overlooked. In fact, the 15 Cooling Towers of each, the Health Sciences Campus (HSC) and the University Park Campus (UPC), are some of the largest consumers of water (). The UPC cooling towers in 2015 accounted for 25% of UPC's total water use (). As such, improving their efficiency will dramatically increase USC's overall water conservation efforts.

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As a part of Professor Seller's Environmental Challenges Class, we had to come up with a proposal to USC Sustainability to limit potable water use. Our idea was to implement shower timer in all USC housing showers. USC attempted to implement shower timers in the past, however we found that they were not implemented widely enough, and the students were not educated well enough about them. Our proposal is to install a simple 5 minute shower timer into all USC showers. Along with this, a fact sheet would be provided to present some environmental incentives to taking shorter showers. The timer would have to be turned on by the person taking a shower. According to our research, this does reduce the effectiveness of the shower timer, however other universities have implemented similar timers and have seen reductions in total water use of up to 2%. We think if the timer is installed in the shower and there is a visual aid to educate students on the effects, many students will choose to be more conscious of their water use. Even if half of USC students shorten their showers, the reduction in water use would be in the hundreds of thousands to millions of gallons every year.

USC can introduce White Meat Wednesdays. This program would replace red meat servings with additional servings of white meat and other protein sources every Wednesday in all dining halls, resulting in a significant reduction in USC's carbon emissions.

Things that are as visible as possible: green buses, solar panels, banning plastics, big events

Here is our proposal! Compared to other sustainability initiatives, procurement and purchasing is at its infancy stage at the University of Southern California. While other programs such as transportation, waste diversion, and water conservation have had initiatives since the early to mid 2010s, sustainable procurement and purchasing initiatives did not begin until recently. As a result, we believe that there is much left to be desired when it comes to sustainable practices in this field. We have a two-pronged approach towards lower USC's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions with regards to purchasing, procurement, and practices. The first approach targets creating and fostering a sustainable research laboratories ecosystem, while the second focuses on improvements and amendments to the current sustainability initiatives in the office setting. Purchasing at USC is a highly decentralized process where departments can purchase from any university-approved vendor and there are very little preferred Green Vendors. Surprisingly, there has been little to no initiatives in when it comes to purchasing in research settings. This really is mind-boggling considering that USC is one of the largest research institutions in the world with over 60 research facilities located here at UPC, HSC, and CHLA (USC Provost's Office of Research). Our proposal involves both long-term and short-term commitments to be the first ever to establish eco-friendly research purchasing program in the country. If successful, its implications would mean that USC will be at the forefront of sustainable research practices and will be designated as the leader for institutions across the world to follow. We have included below a table that lists our goals and projected completion. Our timeline was structured for the USC Sustainability 2028 Plan. By then, we hope to promote and cultivate a "green" research environment across all of USC's facilities. Our first goal is to establish a Laboratory Sustainability Department that is responsible for setting and enforcing sustainability guidelines when it comes to research purchases and practices by the end of 2021. Additional tasks the department would implement is a mandatory sustainability training for all faculty and students participating in research. Raising awareness and engagement through education and outreach would serve as a crucial first-step in cultivating a research culture that emphasizes sustainability. Our second goal is for the department to start collecting data on how much waste laboratories produce or how much energy they use. Researchers at the University of Exeter estimated that 267 tons of plastic waste was generated each year by their biological sciences department. When applied to over 20,000 institutions around the world that performed medical, biological, and agricultural research, the researchers estimated that laboratories produced as much as 5.5 million tons of plastic waste in just a year (Thielking, 2019). However, by no means was this a precise calculation. To make significant and impactful changes, we must first obtain empirical data to begin the appropriate changes. Our third and fourth goal encourages purchasing from sustainable vendors. Tough issues to tackle in research include waste management and recycling because many plastics are contaminated with chemicals. As such, the best that most laboratories can do is to recycle paper. Fortunately, manufacturers such as Corning have initiated recycling and take-back programs that enables laboratories to repurpose their used products (Thielking, 2019). Such a program, when implemented in a large scale, can lead to significant GHG emissions reduction. Since it is not possible to do a complete cost-projection without achieving our second goal, we instead calculated a small scale projection if the changes we proposed were implemented into our research lab and the gerontology research department. Using centrifuge tubes, we ran a projection of how much it would net the School of Gerontology if all the major research laboratories in the department purchased centrifuge tubes from laboratory equipment manufacturers that offered recycling programs compared to purchasing from manufacturers that did not offer such programs. My lab runs through roughly 2 to 3 orders of 500 centrifuge tube cases. Tubes from Falcon, which offers a recycling program, would cost \$324 (Fisher Scientific). Whereas tubes from Fisherbrand, which does not offer a recycling program, would cost \$297 (Fisher Scientific). This would net our lab around \$80 from the standard, and if scaled to the eight major labs that operate in the school of gerontology, then this would only cost approximately \$640 that will result in positive GHG impact. Our second innovation can be broken down into two main goals. The first goal aims to develop and publish a centralized webpage of verified list of distributors that have implemented sustainable efforts into their product lines and service offerings. The compilation of a list of vendors cell recycled office products, including those who engage in clean electronic recycling efforts, green office cleaning supplies, and recycled office supplies should begin by the start of 2020 and be completed by the end of 2020. After the list is finalized, office supplies can only be purchased from the list of verified green distributors. By 2025, we hope to see 50% of all office supplies are replaced with sustainable office supplies, and by 2028, 100% replacement with sustainable office supplies. UCLA's Sustainability Action Research Housing Team has already compiled their "Green Office Catalog" which lists sustainable office supply alternatives. We then made a comparative calculation with one of the office items to project future costs. The cost of bleached copy paper (the standard) was compared to recycled copy paper. The average office worker uses 10,000 sheets of paper, or 20 reams of paper, a year. With the average office holding 20 workers. 20 reams of regular, bleached copy paper cost \$128 on average and 20 reams of 100% recycled copy paper costs \$148 on average, which is only a \$20 difference for each office worker, or a \$400 difference for the average office to implement an easy sustainable office practice ("Shop Staples"). While the costs do add up when scaled across USC, there are solutions that can help surmount this obstacle. Such solutions could include buying recycled paper in bulk from manufacturers. Most manufacturers offer discounts and incentives when organizations make them their sole supplier and partner. An additional solution would be centralizing the purchasing process at USC, so that each office's department would be responsible and ensure the purchase from green vendors. The second goal is to re-establish USC's Green-Office Certification program. The Green-Office Certification program is an incentive program that awards offices that reach certain levels of sustainable office practices. The initial program was cut off due to the lack of infrastructure, staff, and engagement. To tackle this, we have outlined a proposal that could revitalize such program. We propose that a set of guidelines for each ranking of sustainability awards be established by 2021 and the program be reimplemented by August of 2022. The University of Washington has implemented their version of the Green Office Certification program and has arranged their own set of office sustainability rules and recommendations for offices participating in the Green Office Certification Program ("Green Office Program"). In order for an office to be qualified for the Green Office Certification

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Program, the office needs to fill out an application explaining the steps they are currently taking to create a sustainable office and how they plan to further improve their sustainability practices. Certified Green Offices are required to submit an annual report of their sustainable practices to maintain certification. An example recommendation was for offices to purchase toner from companies that engage in toner cartridge recycling programs. The Green Office Certification Program also has a list of these companies and their toner cartridge recycling drop-off locations. As a result of participating in the green office certification program, the office would gain recognition for their efforts in sustainable practices. To exemplify how much reduction in CO2 emissions such an initiative could have, we performed a calculation on the effect of changing the paper supply in an average office. A sheet of regular bleached paper produces 0.0092 pounds of carbon dioxide ("Case 1"). An average office worker who uses 10,000 sheets of paper produces 92 pounds of carbon dioxide. An average office of 20 workers produces 1,840 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. Using 100% recycled paper lowers carbon dioxide production by 47% down to 975 pounds of carbon dioxide in each office per year ("Good Stats"). A brief account of what we have done to research the proposal include looking into programs that other universities have established and programs that those in industry have established. On the general topic of purchasing and procurement, we first researched food purchases. As someone originally from Las Vegas, food procurement, as a result of the casinos, is an apparent concern. However, this was an issue that had already been heavily researched and studied within Las Vegas. Not only were we able to find information on food purchasing, we found more information on sustainable purchasing programs with regards to vendors that sell office supplies. From here, we looked at how various institutions implemented a clean purchasing program and analyzed how we could implement such systems for our campus. As to the sustainable research purchasing and procurement, our reason for choosing such an issue primarily stemmed from personal accounts of experiencing unsustainable practices as research assistants. Research for sustainable purchasing in research was surprisingly desolate throughout institutions in the United States. We had to look towards research from other universities, such as the University of Exeter in England, for preliminary data. From there, we used various vendor websites to obtain information about pricing and materials to calculate our projections between the standard items versus the sustainable items. Perhaps the biggest obstacle to our first proposition is the financial cost and logistics associated with creating a new department. Creating a new department would mean the employment of new staff and the resources, such as workspaces, associated with it. Indeed, there would need to be a large support staff to handle such tasks that the department will be responsible for. There would need to be workers hired to ensure and enforce that laboratories across USC's over 60 research facilities are adhering to the guidelines and practices for sustainable research. We believe that the issue of higher costs from purchasing materials from companies that offer recycling program will not be as large of an issue because subsidies and discounts can be arranged with the representatives of these companies. As with most research laboratories, there are manufacturer representatives that are in charge with creating deals with each lab that would ensure them as their primary supplier. Often times, these companies would give discounts and incentives if the labs decide to make them the primary source of their bulk orders. By leveraging the preference for greener purchasing programs, it forces competing brands to adopt a recycling program and for current brands that do offer recycling programs to lock-up a deal with the labs in research facilities. The biggest obstacle for the second proposition is to cultivate office environmental awareness. It'd be difficult to convince office departments to spend extra to purchase sustainable office supplies when there is no direct personal benefit. To supply an average office with 100% recycled copy paper costs \$400 more than regular bleached copy paper. The \$400 could be saved over the years to buy new office supplies or new office technology. In hopes to promote and encourage environmental awareness in offices, the reimplementation of the Green Office Certification Program provides opportunities for offices to be recognized for their efforts engaging in sustainable practices.

try to find areas where students will actually participate while also tackling the big projects that students cannot take care of

One of the most important things USC should focus on is offering incentives (that people actually want, like dining dollars or prize gift cards or free metro credit) to the USC population to take more environmentally friendly transportation. Another thing that USC could do is to integrate more zero-waste programs and proper recycling programs in on-campus residential halls and possibly also create competition amongst new students living in residential colleges on sustainability goals (like how ResX is doing right now).

Ban plastic use completely on campus and create organizations that instill an environmentally conscious mindset among students.

Here is our proposal that USC still improves the carpool program and gives students appropriate incentives such as the reduced parking permit so that it can encourage more students to participate in the program. The point is that some students will be worried about the carpool partner so we suggest the school can cooperate with the carpool partner app like Zimride. For the shared bike program, USC can build bike-sharing stations in and out of school and provide a lower price compared to the Metro Bike.

Composting.

Advocating and educating students about sustainability

Push for more student involvement. Even though USC does have a lot of programs in place, I feel like a lot of students are unaware of how they can make a difference or feel like they can't make a difference. I also feel like spending resources to educate students on the effects and consequences of environmental issues is important. Especially having taken numerous courses in environmental science, I feel like there are a lot of issues that people are just simply unaware of ways that students could be more environmentally friendly. All in all, I think that even though we do have a lot of initiatives, the collective impact could be much greater with more student interest and involvement.

Implementing renewable energy sources (such as solar panels) is the most important thing.

invest more money into a different source of energy.

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Not only incentive alt modes of transport, disincentive cars! Parking should be more expensive, fryft should encompass scooters, village parking should never be free, and only USC vehicles should be allowed on campus

Recycling, Composting, Hiring outsourced event planners that are sustainable

We have noticed that USC has the tendency to host large-scale events for students and guests of the university alike that result in an inefficient amount of waste. Specifically, we have noticed the issue of non-recyclable/non-compostable waste products that come from USC Dining Hall Midnight Breakfast special events. These events are held late in the night, when USC dining hall workers are not on their regular work schedules. Thus, to combat the more than average influx of students, the staff does not use the dishwashing stations, and instead opt to use plastic dining utensils and paper plates and cups. These are subsequently thrown away into nonrenewable garbage and result in a significant amount of waste. Our proposal is to thus implement compostable dishware products instead. These compostable products would still allow the dining hall workers to not have to wash all the dishware used by students, while simultaneously improving waste diversion efficiency. This effort can be implemented immediately for one-time purchases by the university. A more long-term contract signing with compostable product companies and USC could take about two to four months. This project seeks to help achieve the USC 2020 sustainability goal of achieving 75 percent waste diversion.

Since USC offers free Lyfts to students, we propose that USC extends that program to include Lyft scooters as well, during the hours in which the USC Supplemental Safe Ride program operates. We believe that by offering free scooter rides, this program will take some of the pressure off the demand for Lyft cars and will thus decrease the number of personal vehicles in use. Currently, the surrounding area of our campus is littered with scooters that provide a quick and efficient way to get around. However, students choose to take free Lyfts when they are available in order to save money. We believe that if both free Lyfts and scooters were made available to students, most would prefer to take the scooters. We project that this program extension will create huge savings in both greenhouse gas emissions and money. The average student takes about 2 free Lyfts per week at an average distance of half a mile. With this information, we made the following calculation: $(\$4 \text{ saved per ride}) \times (2 \text{ Lyft rides per week per student}) \times (20,500 \text{ undergrad students}) \times (82\% \text{ of Lyfts converted to scooter rides}) \times (32 \text{ weeks/school year}) = \$4,303,360$ per school year saved through the program extension to scooters. The average scooter ride within the boundary also creates about 211 grams of CO2 emissions less than the average Lyft within the boundary. With this information we made the following calculation: $(211 \text{ grams of CO2 saved per ride}) \times (1 \text{ metric tonne of CO2}/1 \times 10^6 \text{ g CO2}) \times (2 \text{ rides per week per student}) \times (20,500 \text{ undergrad students}) \times (82\% \text{ of Lyft rides converted to scooter rides}) \times (32 \text{ weeks per school year}) = 227$ metric tonnes of CO2 saved per school year. Based on our calculations, this program extension will be very effective in saving both money and CO2 emissions.

Train all faculty, staff, and students on sustainable practices in an engaging, proactive manner. --> some housing maintenance employees just throw the recycling down the trash chute. STOP SENDING USELESS PACKETS OF INFORMATION TO APPLYING AND ACCEPTED STUDENTS. the acceptance packet doesn't need to contain so much paper. for big events we need more than just different bins to sort trash and recycled/composted materials. these materials may say compostable but they still take processing to get to a point at which they are able to be recycled. Food on campus should also be thought about more. There is too much restriction to what the dining halls are allowed to serve which causes to be either healthy and tasteless or unhealthy and flavorful. there needs to be a way to stop the separation between the two and allow for foods to be both flavorful and healthy. This would reduce the amount of food that is wasted by students who do not like the food. Also, students should be encouraged to cook on campus either by setting up more community kitchen spaces or in some way allowing students to plan and cook meals in the dining halls every now and then.

- utilise the constant sunshine and install some solar panels please! - cut down waste especially in places like little galen (way too much single use plastics in that place- ie set up reusable bag or tupperware system)

Especially due to our location in Southern California, we believe it's very important for USC to decrease its potable water use on campus. One way to decrease the university's potable water use is targeting the largest water user on-campus - buildings, at 41% of total water use at USC. Specifically, decreasing the amount of water in USC residential bathrooms (since bathrooms on average use 50% of home water). USC already has implemented low flow toilets, but many residential bathrooms have dated showers with leaks. We propose that for all new USC housing, the university installs water-recycling showers. The "Oas" shower by Orbital Systems saves 90% in water usage and 80% in energy by recirculating and filtering water used when an individual showers. These high-tech showers are extremely efficient and have large benefits to the environment and USC's expenses. Though initial costs are greater than normal showers, these closed-loop water recycling systems would save the university a lot of money over time, and the pay-back period for initial investment is extremely short - only about 1 year. Because about 17% of home energy is used to heat water, 80% reductions in energy usage by these showers will help USC decrease its electric bill and its consequential environmental impact. By reducing water usage in showers by 90%, USC could decrease its water footprint by 15.3 million gallons with only 1,800 students showering with 450 showers. For the proposed new housing complex in the Village, if 1800 students were to live there, USC could save about \$1,800,000/year in water and electricity costs. This large amount will pay back the initial investment needed to purchase the showers, and will even cover the showers higher-than-normal maintenance costs.

USC needs to partner with the City of Los Angeles and the Metro system to introduce a discounted plan for USC affiliates on public transportation and cultural events. Essentially, a subsidized Metro pass that will allow USC affiliates to commute without using their cars. This program will not only save students money but will dramatically decrease the annual CO2 emissions created by daily transportation from automobiles.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

USC should work on cutting back its food waste for the dining halls. By hiring more culinary workers to serve at each station, students can get a more reasonable portion of food to try. If they enjoy the food, they can go back for seconds; however, if they dislike it and do end up disposing it, it will be much less waste than if they served themselves a large and unreasonable portion. In total, this could save the school money and help cut back on its annual food waste.

look into using more solar energy options

Increase opportunities to work or attend from home when possible. The pollution from students, faculty and staff driving in every day is detrimental to our environmental health.

less food waste in dining halls

Increasing information about HOW students and staff can be sustainable in their day-to-day lives and at USC.

There's so much low-hanging fruit, where to begin... I would start with eliminating the bottled water delivery program through Nestle(!). Most offices with a sizable amount of staff have kitchens with sinks that can easily accommodate a reverse osmosis filter. Not only would this be more cost effective (vs. \$7 per 5 gallon jug!), it would eliminate a huge and completely unnecessary carbon footprint, reduce traffic/smog on campus, disruptions from deliveries, etc. Beyond that, there's no excuse for not having solar panels on most building roofs by the end of 2020.

Partner with various key stakeholders such as student affairs and academic units

- Proper waste disposal of all the cigarette butts on campus! Seriously; it's burning holes into the ground! - Make sure as many lights as possible have timers to go off if someone is not in the room

Compost!!

implement more solar panels into electricity system

Educate community on the consequences of their actions. Limit negative things(plastic waste and over printing) and incentivize positive things.

Reduce food waste (don't use trays if you use trays and UCSB did a study that found there is more food waste when students can pile on food onto a tray), Donate unused food, Compost food waste. Then eliminate plastic waste by banning single use plastics from campus and the village, reduce plastic waste via more education at student orientation and initiation. So when students have to take a safety course online, they should also have to take a sustainability course online (just like all the other online videos new students and staff /faculty have to take). Increasing education about ways students/staff/faculty can be more sustainable and help USC sustainable initiatives is key on all fronts.

Educate how to recycle properly and implement it everywhere!

Recycle compost more. Minimize dining hall food waste!!

USC should plant native plants, improve stormwater management, put green roofs, have composting, have solar panels (preferably with green roofs), and have water basins.

Increase housing near campus for students, faculty and staff to change commuters to local walking residents. Add solar panels to parking structures.

Use greywater in the fountains A giant recycling center at every dorm that partners with Terracycle to recycle things not normally considered Many more EV charging stations for a lower price, even investing in infrastructure off campus Transition ALL USC transportation methods (eg. Campus Cruiser) to electric vehicles or hybrids Funding of development of all-electric cargo ships, on and/or off campus

Keep making all people at USC aware of what they are doing and what they would like to see happen in the future with all these thoughts and efforts. Make sure that anything implemented is followed through on. Don't give up because change is difficult and it will take time to transition.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Turn off more lights at night as lots of buildings have their hallway lights on at night even though it is not needed.

Remind everyone in the USC community that little changes can add up to big results: bringing your reusable water bottle everywhere with you, keeping your reusable coffee/tea mug at your desk (and removing single use items from easy access in the kitchen - i.e. would have to ask front desk), start composting programs (70% of trash in landfills can be composted!!), power down/unplug electronics/equipment, walk/carpool, bring your own lunch (and drastically reduce the amount of single use food packaging). There are endless ways to be more sustainable. Even if everyone in the USC community picked one or two... just IMAGINE the impact it could have on our world.

Replace single-use plastics (e.g. containers, lids, utensils) at all dining facilities on campus (particularly at TCC, including Lemonade, Verde, etc.) with compostable options; have composting receptacles throughout campus next to all trash cans in major areas (I only know of THH, and I recently noticed that the sign had been removed); ensure materials intended for composting make their way to the community garden behind Parkside or to another location designated for composting, rather than regular landfill streams; ensure dining halls are being efficient about quantities of food they put out in order to minimize food waste (perhaps if dining halls have extra food at the end of the day that is still ok for consumption, they could allow individuals facing food insecurity to come in for free to serve themselves? This may not be feasible, but it's just an idea); install renewable energy sources (e.g. solar panels) all over campus with the ultimate goal being to entirely eliminate nonrenewable energy usage.

Educate the students. USC has a populous of students from high income families that have never done anything for themselves in their life. They need to be educated so they too can care for keeping USC sustainable.

1) Transition to an energy efficient transportation fleet of EV and/or natural gas vehicles. 2) Transition all restrooms to low flow water systems. 3) Ban the sale of plastic water bottles on campus. Provide reusable sustainable bottles to students that can be refilled. 4) Sell bottled water on campus in new sustainable packaging. 5) Create an academic program focused on renewable technologies and sustainability so we can be come a leader in this area. 6) Support research in renewable energy technology. 7) Plant additional trees on and around campus. 8) Reduce non-essential air travel by faculty and staff. Add a shared video conferencing center to be used to reduce travel. 9) Increase recycling options across campus. 10) Offer modest parking discount to EV's and add more charging stations to structures. 11) Add solar panels across campus to increase renewable generation.

The water sprinklers waste way too much water and usc should switch to desert plants to conserve water

Waste and plastic use

Focus on recycling and the use of sustainable materials on campus: as far as I am aware, the waste in my department is not recycled (despite us separating recycling from trash, it is all collected together, and rumor has it that it is not separated downstream).

effective food waste management and reduction of water usage

Get everyone involved !

Use sustainable products whenever possible. I visited a friend at UC Santa Cruz. Their campus has student contests tied into reducing waste. They also use Compostable towels to clean the tables in the cafeteria

Eliminate plastic in ALL campus areas. Enforce it as much as possible

FMS should look at the time of day and frequency of sprinklers across campus and if they create puddles anywhere. Departments should examine use of paper, recycling bins, and encourage people to turn off electronics on Fridays. FMS should also look at the lights in older office buildings to see if they can be converted to more efficient light bulbs.

Change the culture, set the precedent with events

Make recycling more accessible Guidance/support/resources for offices to promote sustainable practices Make it more desirable to take public transportation to work Encourage remote work opportunities when possible based on business needs. Improve all restroom facilities (low flow toilets, faucets). Facilities in older buildings are not energy efficient and are always leaking Provide more LED lighting alternatives for offices (ie more desk lamps)

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Consider a USC ride or cart sharing program for on campus trips. Sharing of USC Golf carts or "carpooling" across campus. Have an app that would pair people in areas of campus that are going to similar destinations.

Increase green reminders on campus, in residential, and Greek houses or possible incentives for utilities usage. Recycling bins in classrooms/on campus next to trash bins, sustainable food sourcing and donation for dining hall food. Turning off some lights at night. Possibly waste disposal plans for general tailgates and events/parties.

Reduce its carbon footprint. There are many other important components to sustainability, of course. But ultimately, none of them will matter if we cannot curb carbon emissions.

More recycling and compost bins throughout campus. Create rideshare programs that offer incentives for people to carpool to campus. Campus-wide ban on single-use plastics! ex. take out food containers can be compostable.

BETTER WASTE MANAGEMENT! and composting

There needs to be a greater avenue of communication for sustainability among school leadership and the administration. Students have repeatedly voiced their desire for the implementation of sustainability projects, but there are no direct channels for high-level administrators to communicate with student, faculty, and campus leaders. Put profits and economic growth aside. Put the health, safety, and equity of the USC community first.

Unregulated capitalism will always prohibit sustainability. The Chair of the BoT is a real estate developer--this is a terrible message to send. The billionaires on the board have higher carbon footprints than the rest of us--get rid of them.

The electricity and the spent they do for the sustainability. They have so much money they could use better. We don't need vertical or all or money spent on the football team. We need actions to be more sustainable.

Honestly I'm really disappointed in USC and the sustainability efforts I've seen. There are some programs that are great and seem to be working well (zero waste at the Coliseum, for example), but some really simple things are lacking. Why is there not composting in every dining facility? Why are there not as many recycling bins as there are trash cans on campus? Why are there still single use plastic utensils in dining facilities? Why has USC not divested from fossil fuels? These are seemingly simple things that a lot of other campuses around the country have implemented. Does USC not want to be seen as one of the leaders of the sustainability movement? Given the seemingly infinite cash flow at this school, it seems like something they should invest more money and effort in, given the precarious state of the earth's health right now. Also I'd like to note that this survey does not seem to me like it will offer meaningful data. Having to rank sustainability efforts when really I believe that all of them could and should be implemented is pretty frustrating. Personally I think check boxes would be far more informative than ranking.

USC needs to limit excess energy use, compost, recycle, and more. The issue is that none of it is enforced.

Ban any wastable utensil, even if it is recycled and recyclable. Recycling is a good thing but consumes energy and thus produces CO2 that is released in the atmosphere (for both production of the thing and its recycling). We have to keep in mind that to produce any good, the industries are using much water, even for recycled goods. Any compostable waste should be put in a compost bin. We should encourage students to build a compost in their backyard and share it with their neighbors, or to launch a shared huge compost for all people residing near USC. Big communication on why composting is important would have to be organized.

Stop using politics and financial investments as a way to guide decision making and instead look to what would actually be sustainable. For example, usc refuses to put solar panels on buildings because it would ruin the "aesthetic" and because members on the board of trustees have investments in nonrenewable energy sources. If they were to invest in renewable energy it would be a threat to their investments. Which is crazy stupid!

The more you can communicate with village vendors/ meal swipe vendors about sustainability would help because it seems that there is a lot of waste from their businesses

DO NOT DEVELOP THE VILLAGE GREAT LAWN BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT THESE THINGS

Free metro passes for students

Reward somehow

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

try

Spread more information on how to incorporate sustainability efforts into daily life as well as highlighting sustainable efforts already in place on campus so students can take advantage of them.

Reducing food and energy waste

Educate all of the students on the importance of sustainability and the ways to easily implement it in their life (like what goes into recycling and what not etc.). In my experience most of students don't know about it.

More educational sessions on what is offered & being done on campus to promote sustainability.

Empower individual academic departments and organizations to develop and execute plans for in-house sustainability initiatives. Focus university-wide efforts on the aggregation of these ground-level programs to achieve overall results. Develop and promote actionable plans and meaningful metrics to drive achievement rather than speculative goal-setting

Less awareness campaigns and general promotion, more incentives, subsidies, requirements, etc. I think students and faculty need to be "forced" to act in a sustainable manner. If just given the option, many people won't choose the sustainable option if it means they face any sort of inconvenience.

Provide funding for and work with student groups on sustainable projects, and potentially implementing ideas that come out of it. It will be, at the very least, good for them, and possibly fruitful.

Increasing vegan options.

Ban single use plastic, increase sustainability budgets, change food options to include less red meat options

Have more green spaces that are open to the community, specifically partner with companies that stress sustainability (for example in career fairs)

Composting and recycling bins should be present beside all trash bins. At the very minimum they should be available in every building and especially in dining areas. Reduce single occupancy vehicle use by promoting/expanding shuttle and bus use, ESPECIALLY at HSC. Many of the sustainability programs mentioned in this survey are only available at UPC. Obviously there are many opportunities to implement the same sort of programs at HSC which would have high impact. Make UPC more bike friendly.

-Energy conservation -Switching over to hand driers/reducing paper hand towels -More accessible composting and recycling around campus -Reducing single-use plastics on campus

Develop native landscapes to the Los Angeles climate.

Retrofit older buildings to be closer to LEED compliance. Sort the waste stream better--I constantly see aluminum cans (aluminum cans!!!) in waste bins and as far as I know those go straight to the dump and are no longer separated.

food equity / keep cost low/affordable update buildings that do not meet code/ environmental equity keep green spaces green

Roll out solar program for electricity generation on site. Encourage less gasoline-powered vehicles coming to campus every day Decrease single use plastic plates/cutlery/glasses at all dining outlets Increase composting receptacles on campus Integrate environmental research with campus practice (as test site if applicable).

Paperless

The most important and time-sensitive goal should be reducing our carbon footprint through a combination of supply and demand-side strategies, with particular focus on achieving carbon neutrality in GHG emissions asap.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Mandatory recycling.

Ban all wasteful materials such as plastic and styrofoam. USC should further educate the benefits and provide students with incentives to living a more sustainable life.

composting, recycling more(are you sure those blue desk recycling trash bins work?), have gardens (i see a bit of dirt our office wants to plant tomatoes and why not) let us get involved - students, staff, faculty.

Less plastic in food items More defined recycling and composting bins with descriptions about what items go in which bin FREE metro transit passes for all students Refillable water bottle stations in ANN

Ensure intersectionality is apart of the conversation. For example, banning plastic straws hurts disabled people who have to use them. Were disabled people apart of the conversation when USC decided to move away from plastic straws? This is a very important part to consider with any sustainability movement - be inclusive!

educate students to be more informed about the idea of sustainability

USC should focus on reducing the amount of packaging and plastic waste in the dining halls as well as other cafes, restaurants etc on campus. USC should provide more vegan and vegetarian food options. USC should reduce the amount of free "swag" (t-shirts, stickers, buttons, bags etc) given out by campus groups and organizations, because although students pick up many of these items, they are too often cheaply and unsustainably produced items with very short lifetimes of use by students.

Add more recycling bins (ex: every garbage bin has a recycling bin attached) Eliminate use of single use plastics. residential halls and dining halls all have compost plans. Eliminate food waste Add more vegetarian options.

Here is our proposal!

Increase recycling and reduce usage of plastic

Battery and ink recycling at hsc

Sustainable and efficient water usage and efforts to repurpose "dirty" water. Also, plant more gardens or vegetation on campus, as soil and plants help immensely to sequester carbon dioxide in the air, helping to reduce our carbon footprint.

Communicate the programs & benefits frequently and consistently across all schools & programs. We are doing some good things and more people can participate.

Set ambitious goals for the physical and social sustainability of the campus. Provide a transparent and open process to set a path forward to establish USC as a Net Zero Campus. Utilize the on campus expertise and appropriate consultants to develop ways for USC to lead the effort towards a more sustainable planet. We should not be aiming to be positioned at local standards or to meet State or Local standards.

Water conservation, sustainability within dining halls and on campus food (ie have real plates and mugs in TCC to limit waste)

Install solar panels or use energy from a source other than fossil fuels. I noticed that wasn't really touched upon in the survey.

Adopting renewable energy infrastructure!!! USC lost an incredible opportunity to follow through with the solar roofing at the village, but changed their mind when they decided it wouldn't work in favor of their "aesthetic". This type of shallow, short term thinking is intolerable and unsustainable at its core. Also, look at the UC system and follow their lead in divesting from fossil fuel companies and reinvest in renewable energy companies.

Outreach and education; create interdisciplinary majors and areas of study around environmental studies/sustainability/urban planning, etc. More CA native planting/water wise planting, rain gardens, bioswales, green roofs and other opportunities for demonstration gardens. Help create urban wildlife habitat on campus. Increase visibility of sustainability program (which I think is already underway with President Folt and I am thrilled about that!)

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

The Coliseum needs to allow reusable water bottles. By bringing in their own water bottles, attendees at games will save a significant number of single use plastic water bottles.

Reduce food waste, reduce electricity usage, recycle all e-waste, offer composting in Residential housing

Start implementing the programs at a faster rate and become a Global model for colleges & universities of a similar size.

Sustainability in buildings and structures on campus play an important role. LEED certified, Zero energy buildings will provide more efficient energy consumption and production in the future.

Offer free metro passes to faculty and staff, focus on ride share programs, increase the amount of recycling of office waste in each department, use 100% recycled paper campus wide, donate leftover food from all dining halls and restaurants to local homeless population.

Make sure that the students, faculty, staff and visitors know about the sustainability efforts on campus and how they can help.

I loved that there were visible sustainability efforts at Dr. Folt's inauguration event. There were people wearing green t-shirts teaching us what could go in the compost bin & what couldn't. I would encourage more of that. I'd encourage the increased use of compostable items. I'd also encourage an increase in plant-based dining options, and dining establishments and event coordinators clearly labeling what is vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, etc. (this supports both sustainability awareness & diversity and inclusion).

Apart from investing heavily in sustainability, we desperately need a public awareness campaign to get people educated on what they can do to be more sustainable on campus.

Increase Recycling bins with signage Increase water filling stations and incorporate into main usc map Stop giveaways of plastics or things that will end up in trash (ie. orientation and commencement gifts)

1. Divest from fossil fuels, and invest in renewable energy sources. 2. End all single use plastics by 2020. 3. Convert an entire floor of each parking structure to electric charging. 4. Convert all USC buses to electric. 5. Take a much more active advocacy role in our neighborhood, city and county, in support of sustainability policies and programs.

Continue to reduce the public transportation cost for faculty and staff to campus. The new initiative is great, but look to further increase the subsidy with a goal of 100% subsidy by 2028 for participants choosing not to drive to campus. This will make it a really difficult decision for people to drive to campus. I really don't believe in paying for the privilege to come to work (ie parking passes).

Provide more sustainable food options. Make recycling cans more available. Make students and staff more aware of sustainability.

Install solar panels to maximize renewable energy input. Advocate for waste recycling (we have recycling bins but often times people don't really use it properly). Turn off lights/screens in the buildings at night to save electricity.

USC must invest in solar panels. There's no good reason a university with billions of dollars and 360 days of sun should not be almost entirely powered by solar. We must also make a serious effort to reduce energy consumption and material waste; most of the buildings' lights and screens on campus are left on all night. These are easy ways to reduce power consumption. Also, plastic waste is rampant on campus and USC eateries are not forcing people to think about reducing their waste, and USC is not making it easy to recycle.

Decrease availability of single-use plastics on campus and in faculty/staff offices and replace with sustainable alternatives, increase options for public transportation, carpooling, etc., ensure that all USC buildings are green, partner with vendors who prioritize sustainability, increase vegan and vegetarian food options.

Education of sustainability awareness is very important.

Plant trees in the community around campus Decrease waste of water from sprinkler use Add solar panels to existing buildings

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Electric buses! The buses USC operates are leased - cancel the leases and invest in some EV infrastructure. Work with Proterra to join the ranks of universities (Fresno State University, Florida State University, University of Georgia, Duke University, etc.) USC is falling behind! Los Angeles asthma rates only continue to rise... as the largest private employer in LA County and one of the largest private transportation operators, we must work harder to transition to electric bus services!!

Spreading awareness and education to the students on subtle and easy ways in which they can be more sustainable. Implementing effective actions that reduce waste and energy consumption, such as composting and sustainable energy. We need more action.

Make sure people know what can be recycled, implementing a recycle bin next to every trash bin on campus, having more separated bins (ex: recycle, landfill, compost) together

Expand sustainability awareness Set goals to be recognized as a top 10 sustainable university by 2025 Set sustainable goals for all schools and departments Broaden the sustainability plan Set performance management goals for all areas for sustainability

Procure products (both food as well as all non-perishables) used on campus and in residences from sustainable sources ONLY!

Try to use compostable utensils, cups, and plates. Provide more composting and recycling bins throughout campus and classrooms.

Publicize efforts more so everyone knows how they can be involved. Include HSC in sustainability plans.

Educate employees about waste diversion and what they can do every day to properly sort trash. Show them that trash is actually being recycled. Collaborate with the county's and city's transit systems to make sure that transit lines and schedules to campus make sense. Bring back subsidized passes. Have shared utensils and dishware in employee eating areas and ways to clean these items so that we reduce plastics use. Install dryers in the bathrooms. Enable employees to work from home some days to reduce commuting. Have landscaping that is reflective of local flora and uses less water.

There do not appear to be any solar panels on campus and that is ethically and morally a problem. USC is 'greenwashing' its sustainability initiatives which are so very lacking for a college of the reputation, wealth and brain power of USC- as an architect mother of a USC student, I am frankly APPALLED at the lack of environmental policies on campus. The fact that the new buildings are only LEED-certified is embarrassing. It is not hard to achieve LEED Silver, it is actually harder to only achieve certification. Where are the solar panels???? At the 2019 Book Fair, there were virtually no recycling bins and no USC representative on-site could tell me why (USC should have an Operations Plan for ALL vendors who come on campus and for all food vendors who are there). The restaurants on campus sell single-use plastics, and the amount is ridiculous- at a recent lunch at the Viterbi Cafe, there were plastic lunch containers overflowing the bins and NO visible recycling containers at all. At a recent lunch at Cava in the Village (where my son is living), each bowl for a single lunch comes with a plastic top. The operator had no knowledge of why/how this impacts the waste stream or what they were required to do. No composting bins near where hundreds of people eat lunch- the older existing green bins do not work, there should be a campus-wide re-look at the bin situation to improve it (wide-mouth black, blue and compost so people use them properly?). I would like to help, this is a critical issue and USC must move faster with various plans, not the least of which is to fully staff this important office of sustainability!

Provide multiple use utensils like metal straws at events as prizes.

Move to renewable energy sources like solar for Residence Housing and other buildings. Better waste system: make recycling more accessible. Dual bins- every garbage bin has a recycling bin attached with instructions on what to recycle, sorted trash bins: landfill, recycling, compost. Sustainable gardens on campus- water saving plants. Water recycling/ grey water system.

less waste!!! we waste so much food/water/electricity and should instill measures to cut down on all of these categories.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

--make all lights LED or more environmentally friendly, all toilets low water flush --put signs over recycling bins to tell people what they actually can and cannot recycle --put a timer on campus lights so nothing gets left on over night --find a way to recycle beer cans and red solo cups after gameday rather than throwing them away. --place one of these in McCarthy quad so that people have fun throwing their cans in it. Like maybe you could make it Trojan shaped, or have a little hole in the middle where people can try to throw the cans in and make it fun. But basically a big crate for gameday beer cans, kind of similar to this: <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-cpPsqoERTiQ/TyoLBHEjWII/AAAAAAAAARQ/JtZXdUZfSig/s1600/Large%2Bcan%2Bcage.jpg> --have water refill stations/drinking fountains in Tudor Campus Center, so people know they can fill up their waterbottle and don't have to buy one at seeds --donate food better --not send quite so many admissions papers in the mail. It's way too much. --restrict how many clubs can give out papers on club fair day. --when we move into usc housing, we are given a packet with all kinds of papers, some of which are completely useless. There should be a place where you can grab papers in the housing lobby rather than being automatically given all of the papers, most of which are never looked at --try to implement programs of REUSE rather than recycling --AT THE END OF THE YEAR, THERE IS USUALLY A BIG GOODWILL CAMPAIGN WHERE PEOPLE DONATE THEIR STUFF. THIS COULD BE MUCH BETTER ORGANIZED, AND MAYBE NOT SO CRAMPED AT THE END. YOU COULD MAKE SOME SORT OF MARKET WHERE STUDENTS COULD GET STUFF, OR A WEBSITE WHERE STUDENTS COULD SEE IF THERE'S STUFF THEY WANT. FOR EXAMPLE, LOTS OF LAMPS, PLASTIC DRAWERS, SPARE PRINTER PAPER... ETC. TONS OF STUFF LIKE THIS CAN BE USED BY OTHER TROJANS WITHOUT EVERYBODY HAVING TO BUY A NEW ONE AT THE END OF THE YEAR BEFORE IT GETS ALL PUT IN A HEAP AND DUMPED AT GOODWILL.

buy renewable energy, implement a sustainable sourcing program and ban plastics.

Recycling

easier to compost

Nobody knows about the electronic recycling bins that we have on campus so that should be marketed more to students, teachers should use online textbooks more frequently instead of making us all get huge paper ones that we almost never end up using frequently, make sure teachers are only telling students to buy books etc., if they actually plan on utilizing them, increase sustainable food options in the dining halls, change lighting to more eco-friendly options, offer more classes about how to live a sustainable life and environmental awareness classes.

Keeping the campus beautiful with various nature artifacts around the campus (trees, flowers, waterfalls, etc.).

Create more options and opportunities for sustainability on/around campus and PROMOTE them.

The most important thing that USC should do to be more sustainable is to educate and spread conservation ideas and ideals within the community so that students who are interested in getting involved have a place to act upon their calling.

Sustainability needs to be applied in a more overarching way since all individuals cannot be targeted. So, I think the most important thing to do is focus on how all the buildings can conserve energy or how all food options on campus can source more sustainably.

More water fountains for filling up hydroflasks and other re-useable water bottles. And more access to e scooters.

I am not sure yet.

ban red solo cups

decrease paper usage use less electricity (classrooms often stay lit after class is over) increase rideshare area coverage (eg. from a two mile limit to three)

Raise awareness about initiatives that are already in place so students, faculty, and staff can utilize them.

reducing food waste in the dining halls, increasing rideshare programs to reduce congestion, offer alternative ways to get to campus (bike, scooters, skateboards) and making these affordable for students

Ban single use plastics; use more reusable water bottles and straws; plant more trees

ban plastic

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

flex work schedules plastics ban

Ensure students, staff, and faculty have access to vegan options, plastic alternatives, and minimize excessive gas, electricity, and paper use around campus.

Along with all of the other suggestions, Checking over older USC owned structures for Greener delayed upgrades or maintenance options (ie, Solar Panels, Double Pane Low E Windows, Energy-efficient Heating and AC Units.)

Invest in solar power on rooftops and parking garages. Take care of the green spaces.

There are not enough recycling bins on the health sciences campus or UPC. I think it's great that USC is looking to expand other initiatives, but we also just need to be able to easily recycle and compost without having to carry our recyclables and compostables to the other end of campus. Also, we have recycle bins at Norris Medical Library, but when facilities picks up the bins, they throw everything in the recycle bins into the garbage. Something should be done about this. Thank you.

Recycling of paper, cardboard, and other materials that qualify. Eliminate food waste by making sure unused food is shared with students in need or homeless shelters, etc. Offer the website about USC events with free food that are open to students attendance.

Take action to reduce waste on campus -- more recycling bins, more water bottle refill stations, ban straws and plastic bottles, reduce waste at events, etc. Additionally, provide incentives to encourage the usage of public transportation.

cut ties to fast food / single use containers - fast food (CPK/Habit/etc) are environmentally harmful and unhealthy. cut all single use plastic bottles/containers (coffee houses/vending machines, etc) As an educational/research institution, USC should take a rational/scientific approach. We know what works, what we need to do - the research is in. Both with regards to healthy (personal and environmental) choices, and pollution/waste. Promote/support robust public transportation - EVs are NOT the solution; this city needs PUBLIC, MASS transportation.

offer discounted public transport options

I can't believe not all of the plastic-ware or cups or single-use food items are not sustainable. It's outrageous.

move to more renewable sources of energy on campus - we are in southern California and don't have solar panels on any of our buildings? make recycling much easier less packaging on catering materials support public transit much more

Work with local government agencies to greatly increase the frequency of multipassenger commuting methods (i.e.city and area buses) to USC. This would alleviate current heavy reliance on automobile commuting.

Stop ignoring Health Sciences Campus! Why do we never get any of these great initiatives?

I would recommend USC start recycling plastic and cans. Currently, in the VKC building, only paper is collected and recycled.

I truly think it appalling how little is done here. does the paper we waste actually get recycled, or do all bins go in the same dumpster? I've seen it done both ways. By all means, please do MORE!

ban single use plastics/styrofoam for all food sold on USC/HSC/Coliseum, etc.

In my opinion the most important thing USC can do to be more sustainable is to support its students and staff members who use public transit by offering transit passes. The second most important thing is to decrease food waste and increase vegetable based diet options.

Be more clear about our waste stream. USC produces an enormous amount of waste; our trash used to be sorted for recyclables but now it isn't and I always see lots and lots of recyclable materials in trash bins (and, perhaps even worse, vice-versa). We should also have a lot more vegetarian and vegan options on campus. It's somewhat hit or miss now. How about green roofs (or putting solar panels on them)?

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Keep it front and center in awareness and promotion.

consider HSC... encourage the use of public transportation more recycling options

Actively divest from initiatives that support environmental destruction (oil companies, big corporations, etc.) and actively avoid pursuing financial ties with entities that do not support the mission of USC (e.g. projects in the Libraries that benefit the Department of Defense)

I feel as if there needs to be a more open conversation with students about what USC is actually doing and why they are doing it. A lot of the time, I feel as if change on campus is seen as negative because we don't understand that the reason behind the change could be to create a more sustainable campus. I also believe that the University needs to more clearly determine how important sustainability is to them, because I think students and donors are out of the loop simply because USC just doesn't know the extent to which sustainability needs to be a focus of this campus. In general, I would also appreciate a collaboration between students and faculty to create a more sustainable campus. A lot of these decisions are made by people above us, but the fact is, we have intelligent students on campus that are conducting research and learning about sustainability now, and I think the campus needs to take more advantage of that. Sustainability needs to be a collaboration between students, our superiors, AND the technology between us; just sustainability is not built on one pillar, sustainability on campus cannot rely on just one of these parts of our campus and be successful. We have the opportunity to be a living laboratory if students, faculty, and technology comes together, but USC desperately needs to determine if that's their ultimate goal - and actually communicate and take action if it is.

Recycle more!

Connect with other faculty and staff working on environmental and human well-being efforts. With USC's siloed nature, it requires plugging in to other similar efforts to accomplish large, complex, and important goals like improved sustainability and well-being for our campuses.

Implement sustainable transportation solutions to/from and within USC campuses. Collaborate with other initiatives (e.g., USC Wellbeing) to link environmental sustainability with health and wellbeing outcomes with USC community.

Encourage consumption of plant-based foods through more affordable, fresh options

implement more institutional campus-wide policy changes and not just trendy programming. make buy-in mandatory instead of optional.

More trees, less buildings

Take a note from UBC and other institutions focusing on regenerative sustainability. President Folt activated USC using the "Okanagan Charter for a Health Promoting University" <https://healthpromotingcampuses.squarespace.com/okanagan-charter/> This document ties together health in person, place and planet and is key to international visibility. Thank you

Ban single use plastics!!!!

raise awareness and convince students to participate more in environmentally friendly tasks

Set a public goal, commit a budget and staff to achieve it, report progress publicly

Educate staff on available options every year

Renewable energy! Reduce water consumption. Reduce meat consumption and food waste

Ensure as many students as possible have access to recycling and compost dumpsters nearby. Students also avoid reusable utensils, dishes, etc because they either lack the means to wash them or don't want to invest in the time to do so themselves. As daunting as it may be, it might be worthwhile to see if the university could do something about that.

NA

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Ban single use plastic campus-wide - it needs to be an united front. Make composting & rainwater capture visible to students so they can learn. Have visible gardens so student know where food comes from. More awareness of food waste in general and promoting Food Pantry.

The most important thing USC should do to be more sustainable is to make it more convenient for students. Have more access points for recycling with explicit details on what can be recycled (an obvious recycling bin by every trash can), institute composting for residential communities (specifically apartments), provide dishwashers for apartments to save 9x as much water as hand washing, having professors upload everything electronically, etc. By simply making things easier for students, participation in sustainability will increase.

Focus on what USC can do as a school, community leader, and educator and let that be a guide as to how the students, alumni, faculty and staff can take these teachings and implement them elsewhere within their lives. Also check and change the filters at the water bottle filling station throughout USC. They typically stay yellow for a while before the filter has been changed. Put water bottle filling stations in the graduate housing dorms. The USC Village is the closest area where we can go to get our water bottles refilled. This is a major inconvenience.

Ban single-use plastic! Make people eat less meat!

-(Super Easy): Encourage professors to give handouts and accept papers electronically. -Greener energy!: Solar panels for the village!

Invest in Solar Panels, ban single-use plastics, and reduce food waste by donating to local shelters

Less A/C in the winter Increase the A/C by a few degrees year round

Continue the push to using more bio-degradable packaging and utensils as well as promoting reusable items.

Create a campaign to incentivize the community to apply sustainable measures in big and small ways. Remind us about caring for our local environment. Incentivize departments that are exemplary in being sustainable. Reward departments that creatively apply sustainable changes in their spaces.

Work with USC Communications to tell the story (both internally to USC faculty, staff, students and externally to general public via media - NPR, LA Times etc.) what USC has already done - as well as hopes to achieve - in terms of sustainability. We are doing great work, however, no one knows about it. We need to have the story tellers out there promoting it for us.

Eliminate the use of plastic water bottles in food vendors who service events on campus - require boxed water or paper cups.

Educate all students on how to best live more sustainably on a daily basis.

Eliminate single-use plastic on campus, there is no need for any of them!

Food waste and our treatment of waste in general is extremely inconsiderate of our impact on the greater community. Campus does not provide students with many opportunities to responsibly rid of waste. I am an architecture student and there is an incredible amount of paper wood and plastic supplies left at the end of each semester that gets thrown away. I propose that USC creative programs find outside arts programs or at least specialized recycling programs to deal with this particular loose end. Seriously it is just piles and piles of usable materials

Checking and regulating the food in campus and to see how sustainable they are; Send emails to get more people to be aware of the problem; Regulating power use (e.g. no light in buildings within a certain time range)

Make it easier to eliminate food waste! Put compost and recycling bins everywhere!!

Solar power

Education, make guidelines easy. In dorms, there was just trash and recycling, people didn't respect the difference.

Solar and other renewable energy sources. Get rid of grass.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Sustainable investments, renewable energy/reducing carbon footprint, waste reduction, and foster/support a culture of sustainability

Advertise it to incoming students more to attract students who make potential change

Increase funding for initiatives and hold more meetings with provost.

USC should be a leader in the community in regards to environmental sustainability. Considering it's position and influence, I feel that USC should do whatever it can to make all parts of campus sustainable and more environmentally friendly. I don't think the school should take any shortcuts but instead should dedicate more budget and effort into supporting better environmental health.

Ban plastic use

-education -transportation -decrease meat consumption -electricity literally anything....reducing straw usage is not the answer; go bigger

Can they repurpose the endowment for fountaining and gardening to fulfill some of these potential sustainability projects?

Listen to the environmental student orgs and the people who participate in them. They have a lot of good ideas and need the chance to share them so USC can work towards a more sustainable future. We can't claim we are a leader in the higher academic sphere if we aren't actually making progressive and effective steps towards a more sustainable and eco-friendly campus. Discussions pertaining towards the future of our degrading environment and the direct role humanity has played in that degradation are only becoming more prominent and relevant. In our for USC to participate in those discussions in a meaningful manner, there needs to be more open mindedness towards solutions proposed by community individuals. Also just have more sustainable education. Maybe consider making it one of the things USC has a online module for that students can go through at the beginning of the year. None of the sustainability measures USC does are going to be that effective if the students don't understand what is being done and why it is.

Tackle waste, divest from fossil fuels, increase involvement in environmental justice, work to make neighborhood more walkable/bikeable/safe to discourage students from driving/uberling short distances

USC must first completely divest from all fossil fuel developers and companies. We are very behind on many sustainability initiatives in place in California and it's quite embarrassing. Solar panels, composting and LEED gold certified should be the norm at this university. Ban plastic materials, make recycle bins more accessible, reduce water use (turn off fountains, better irrigation), more renewable energy use. Our future depends on places like USC taking charge. BRING THIS TO ADMINISTRATION!

USC has the resources and land to become a leader in sustainable urban practices in Los Angeles. USC should focus on sharing knowledge and providing tools for students and staff to practice sustainability in their daily lives. USC should definitely have a dedicated office or space on campus for environmental health, sustainable practices, and involvement with USC's 2020 and 2028 goals.

Cut carbon footprint of university by 75% in the next five years. This will likely require renovating and retrofitting all or most buildings to be LEED certified, investing in rooftop solar for major buildings or parking structures. Cut water waste by 50% in the next 5 years (e.g. finding solution to massive water waste from labs/research facilities, increasing groundwater replenishment by increasing green spaces on campus, etc.) Reach 75% complete waste diversion in next five years through composting, proper recycling, and single use trash restrictions. Publicly and financially support the designation and continued protection of federally protected wilderness areas (e.g. national monuments, parks, marine protected areas, etc.), and continue to fund research within these areas that ultimately furthers the maintenance and greater understanding of these regions importance for global biodiversity and climate change mitigation. Basically, what we all want as Trojans is specific, measurable, action-oriented projects targeting the most urgent environmental issues facing our world. Vague statements of support and low budget projects are NOT enough. We're past the point of just needing to educate people. As a university, we don't have a problem with that. We have a problem with not putting our money where our mouth is. It's time to become a leader in sustainability (and ethics) in the collegiate community.

all new campus vehicles should be electric (shuttles, safety), effective immediately. phased replacement of existing ICE vehicles, most polluting being replaced first, within 5 years, by 2024. (air pollution is bad in the UPC area, need urgent solutions for student, faculty, staff and community health) public transport subsidies - paid for by rate hikes on parking structures. waste (compost in all dining areas, sorting all trash for recycling, eliminate single-use plastics immediately) immediate change, i.e. for the 2019-20 AY. all green groundskeeping. audit flights for athletics teams, administrators, faculty and students. calculate the emissions associated with all activities, including commuting. 49% drive to work is a disgrace. provide audit and educational information. provide annual targets. forget 2028, act now. Do better SC.

foster a culture of sustainability, driven by senior administration, that permeates every aspect of the Trojan experience

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Reduce waste and focus on energy conservation.

Eliminate or significantly reduce single-use plastics. More outreach about waste reduction, what/how to recycle for faculty, staff, and students. More publicity at events about waste and sustainability.

Divest the endowment fund of fossil fuel companies! That one thing would do far more for real world sustainability issues than everything in this survey combined. Marginally better composting practices and low flow toilets won't do a thing to improve sustainability if we insist on continuing to help and benefit from the industries gutting the planet.

- Eliminate all single-use plastics in dining areas, cafes, vending machines, etc. - Eliminate products made with palm oil (immense cause of deforestation & environmental degradation in Asia & other areas) - Limit red meat served in dining areas - Limit seafood options--ensure seafood is from a sustainable source (but fish stocks are too depleted either way) - All food should be organic-- especially if implementing compost programs - Fair trade, rain forest friendly & sustainable coffee & chocolate - Solar panels on main campus - Clothing exchanges, re-purpose workshops - Mandatory workshops concerning ocean health for incoming students/ faculty

Make sustainability part of our strategic plan and a fundamental goal for USC in academics, campus operations, and community outreach.

I think it starts with the little everyday things...organic, sustainable food in our dining halls. Nontoxic cleaning products and maintenance practices. Education and the why behind these efforts is also helpful so instead of being told to do something they understand that its more of a participation in a better tomorrow. Get rid of plastic in vending machines. Source humanly raised/organic/sustainable animal products and organic, local produce.

I think the most important things USC should do is limit the amount of single use plastics on campus, and instate more meat free options in dining halls

Need President and executive commitment at USC both for classroom (faculty & staff) as well as for students in residential areas. Many professors have individual printers which contribute to landfill (printer cartridges, paper). Needs to be more focus on electronic document submission, less individual printing, utilization of more electronic tools to eliminate this waste. More marketing and communication regarding USC Sustainability Policy, actions, priorities, goals needs to happen. Right now most of the communication is on housing related stuff - how about everything else?

Create plan for carbon neutrality

Invest in solar/renewables in the local sphere.

Unplug all charging devices, if done, we could cut wasted watts/miliwatts/miliamps/ etc.

Put solar panels on campus to off set energy use on campus Use of reclaim water options for gardening/fountains/other facility maintenance items Replacing old lighting with new LED lighting options Using sustainable food options for dining as in hydroponics/aquaponics systems that are on campus and used in the dining facilities

Renewable energy! SOLAR!!! Reduce our carbon footprint. Increase the number of electric vehicles. Offer organic and sustainable food options. US foods (a USC vendor) does not offer any organic or sustainable options for purchase. Embrace the Wrigley Institute

Make more sustainable buildings, install clean energy, divest on fossil fuels, directly fund carbon sequestration R+D

Sustainability is about reducing waste at the source. Even if we increase our recycling rate, we have to hinder the need to recycle to begin with. USC should ban all departmental offices from purchasing single use plastics/styrofoams. (especially black plastics which cannot be recycled).

They need to make changes that make a big difference but students won't really notice. For example, purchasing food from sustainable sources, mostly replacing red meat with white meat, updating lighting fixtures, supporting more sustainability research, and purchasing clean energy. USC could also make a big difference by publicly supporting sustainability efforts and publishing data about our progress. Students would benefit from seeing that there is some top-down leadership occurring in this area

Increase recycling bins around campus

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Reminding all of us that we can do something about sustainability, every day.

Make sustainable options default or more convenient

Provide food donation/recycling services for events across campus. I find that there is tremendous food waste at catered events.

stop power washing the village EVERY DAY

Social sustainability. Reducing social reliance on violent policing and prisons.

All new infrastructure should be LEED certified. Ban single use plastics and encourage people to bring their own utensils, containers etc as much as is feasible. We are also training the next generation so there should be more offerings for students to learn about sustainability issues and to make sure they know we as an institution value that work.

At events - let the staff take leftovers. We have had events at USC Hotel and UClub and we are not allowed to take the leftover food. Waste of food and MONEY

Just be conscious that there are always ways to improve.

Discounted or free bus/train passes for students, staff, faculty

Encouraging students, staff and faculty to use Mass Transit and provide convenient shuttles/bikes/scooters to get from Mass Transit stations to University campuses.

Reduce paper waste in academic units create more awareness about the initiatives already in place. provide more recycle and compost bins around campus provide only biodegradable packaging on campus

Incentive rewards for those who take the bus and/or Metro to work.

Eliminate plastic. Subsidize shared transportation for fac, staff, students. Incentivize recycling and sustainable behavior with competitions.

Whatever is effective based on existing data, research. Avoid wasting time and resources for low return activities.

Get linked with a homeless shelter and donate all the stuff that gets left behind by seniors getting ready to graduate.

-Incentives to students and staff to carpool or use public transportation - right now there is no incentive to buy a monthly metro pass since it's roughly the same price as parking structure. I would stop commuting and purchase a metro pass if it was subsidized by USC. Right now the time it takes to use public transport/shuttle system from Union to UPC is x 2 as long as well so I would need some incentive to make it worth the extra time. - Increase shuttle times for commuting from Union Station and make sure they are electric/hybrid vehicles. - Create a university wide policy about purchases of plastics/non reusable items. - Have recycling bins in all the offices for plastic bottles/cans not just paper.- - Ban plastic bags/utensils/plastic packaging on food across all campus restaurants/dining options. - Create employee and student awareness campaigns to learn more about the recycling options

Make it easier to recycle. Reduce food waste and the contributions USC vehicles make to pollution.

Improve energy and water conservation efforts on campus.

Solar power generation on parking structures, compost bins at all buildings.

Implement a campus wide ban on single use plastics. ESPECIALLY in offices!!! My office alone goes through a ridiculous amount of Styrofoam cups. This problem can be easily fixed if everyone brings their own coffee mug from home (or if we all get welcome mugs on our first day)

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

I think there's a tremendous amount of food waste at USC dining halls and the worst part about it is that we don't even compost it ourselves. Also, there is very very little sustainability courses at USC, and I would've thought a university like ours would, so I must say I was very disappointed with our environmental studies program. Also, I think one thing we could do to be more sustainable is definitely banning plastics, and charge for plastic bags. Also, I'd really like to see a biking program on campus. Something that has not been mentioned could be like a separate drying bin in bathrooms, where paper towels that have been only used with water can be dried and then recycled.

Waster diversion, energy

STOP. USING. BALLOONS. More sustainable landscaping practices

Focus on eliminating food waste, donating leftovers, composting, and making recycling ins widely available and visible

Reducing print across campus. Eliminating excess packaging, bags, and single-use plastics. Giving students discounts for bringing back a reusable cup to purchase a drink, or if they bring their own bag to shop with (not single-use plastic bags). Ensuring campus buys more green products and reduces selling other products. USC should establish environmental goals and shares results with campus.

Ban plastic on campus as much as possible (Seeds especially). Stop designing buildings that aren't solar equipable. Stop wasting water on non-native species. Create more LEED-certified buildings (5 is not a lot at all). Stop serving red meat EVERY DAY at the dining halls. Introduce pre-enrollment sustainability education (how and what to recycle especially).

Regular sustainability education for faculty, staff & students. Limit single use ware: cups, plates, utensils, bottles, etc.

Educate faculty about use of paper and recycling printing paper. Eliminate plastic bags from the food services. Introduce rain barrels at HSC.

Efforts towards food waste and packaging waste reduction for students Transportation refinements and building infrastructure for staff/faculty and student sustainability goals

Be willing to make sacrifices.

Go zero waste Conserve water and electricity Compost food

1) Re-negotiate the deal with DWP that throttles the university's ability to use solar panels. Put solar panels on the rooftops of the Village. 2) Revamp the way the grounds are maintained and kept. It's my understanding that a majority of the plants are annuals, not perennials, and have to be regularly uprooted and re-planted. They are also quite thirsty, requiring heavy amounts of water. Look for waste/efficiency gaps and address them. 3) Update older buildings with low-flow faucets that turn off automatically. 4) Eliminate single-use plastics perpetuated through food centers, ie, the food court outside Seeds. 5) Offer alternative to-go containers, perhaps wax paper wraps, compostable containers. 6) Host a "black out" day once a month, to conserve energy and educate students. 7) Offer incentives for car-sharing or carpooling students. 8) Host sustainability tours of campus. 9) Work with LACI, the Los Angeles Clean Tech Incubator, to find more ways to be environmentally friendly. 10) Re-negotiate with the company who handles our waste services to stop using heavy black plastic bags and switch to a compostable version. I've seen facilities staff in the library take a 32 gallon bag with 4 scraps of paper waste, tie a knot in the top, and put that in another large black plastic bag. They don't consolidate waste, and they don't use environmentally friendly bags.

implement solar power, increase the number of recycling bins in campus

While the amazing Office of Sustainability and various environmental student groups are very vocal, transparent, and dedicated in terms of sustainability efforts, this is a very small group. Sustainability efforts need to come from the highest offices at USC. Furthermore, we need more sustainability-minded students. We can attract more of these students (who would rather go to schools like Berkeley or UCLA which already have so many amazing sustainability opportunities) by creating more sustainability research, offering more sustainability degree programs, and increasing the size of our ENST department (offering more classes, more professors who do research in fields other than just ocean focused studies, etc.)

Get rid of all of the fountains!! Using all that water is so wasteful!! Also why don't the rooves have solar panels? That seems like basic sustainability 101.

Please don't do half of this. Banning single use plastics is ridiculous. A sustainability GE? We already have to take a year and a half of GE's. Recycling bins should be increased and there should be OPTIONS to get reusable plates/silverware at oncampus restaurants.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Educate, educate educate. Spread the word to everyone. Share your successes and failures and keep asking for input from anyone, anywhere. Put good ideas to work and let everyone know about it. Everyone will buy into it. Make it as routine as brushing your teeth.

I think the number one thing USC should strive for immediately is implementing a sustainability-focused course for every student, likely in the form of a GE requirement. While ENST majors are thinking about and acting in the name of sustainability every day, some students don't consider sustainability in their daily lives at all, because the relevant conversations are not included in their education. In an age where climate change is the greatest threat to human development and security, how is USC going to create the next generation of successful leaders and forward thinkers if the student body is not taking sustainability into account in their careers and personal lives? It only takes one incredible and informative class to change a student's perspective.

Expand opportunities within Dornsife ENST program. I'm an ENST major and too many of the classes are focused on the natural sciences and not enough on sustainable business / economic growth, LEED / Envision certifications, renewable energy.

more recycling bins

Make it easily accessible to be sustainable. Students who are not passionate about sustainability will not go out of their way to practice sustainability. If it is just as easy as the alternative option, they would!

Convert to renewable energy , Reduce water usage in landscaping, eliminate use of disposables, educate all about climate change

USC should find a way to be completely carbon neutral by a reasonable date by divesting from fossil fuels and implementing solar energy by investing in an off-campus solar field. USC should ban all single use plastics, especially from USC Hospitality. USC should make sustainability a part of campus culture through more programming, emails from the president, posters in every class, teachers mentioning sustainability in every class no matter the discipline, RAs teaching sustainability to their residents, and in every other method possible.

Solar Panels, ban of single-use plastic on campus

Convert to %100 renewable energy and ban all single use plastics

Reduce waste in offices (k-cups, plastic ware for events, etc.)

Divest from all fossil fuels. This could've happened long ago, and it's as easy as ever now with the price of renewables being so low. USC has an incredible amount of sway and could easily accomplish this. Also focus less on more buildings, and give students more affordable options for food, hiding, etc.

USC needs to work towards becoming carbon neutral and using more renewable energy. In addition, USC needs to use native plants that do not require as much water. The fountains on campus should use reusable water and not potable water. Ban single use plastics.

Conduct a GHG emission inventory across Scope 1, 2, and 3. Then target emission sources by biggest reduction potential and then cross-sort the sources by feasibility and cost of reduction. Tangible, material changes to the campus are more important than flowery engagement activities.

Open a coal plant reaching carbon neutrality using renewable energy sources Open a campus nuclear reactor Choose one

do not give out too many free things because that is a waste

USC needs to acknowledge its environmental impact publicly and make public, measurable and attainable goals to reach by specific benchmarks to move towards sustainability. It needs to increase its budget into sustainability initiatives and provide funding to each school to help schools invest into sustainable processes. Students should be very involved in this process and meetings with administration should be make public so that more students are aware of what USC is and isn't doing to address sustainability on campus. USC should take inventory of everything that emits carbon emissions and prioritize reducing these emissions first.

Get rid of any fossil fuels. Install solar on roof tops. Rid campus of all plastics, including those sold at Trader Joes and Target.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

I think one important way USC can educate everyone about sustainability is by making it a GE requirement. I'm an Environmental Science and Health major, and I didn't start changing my habits and becoming more aware of the sustainability of systems until I started taking ENST and other sustainability classes. Education is the first step to creating change, especially on such a large scale. I think once people are educated on the issues, they will be more willing to learn about and help out with sustainability initiatives on campus.

I believe that USC should focus on holistic change through integrated systems. This entails combining our efforts in Energy, Waste, Water, and Transportation to figure out changes that increase sustainability not only within each department but across multiple departments. The departments should also be appropriately staffed and have ample funding to embark upon ambitious projects not just the low hanging fruit of sustainability. To become a leader we have to push the boundary further than our peers not just satisfy to minimum requirements. We should also convert our landscaping over to Native California Species to not only reduce our water use but also to rebuild the ecosystem so heavily impacted by the urban landscape of Los Angeles.

Turn off lights in buildings that are unoccupied at night!! Stop planting such water intensive plants all over campus- a native landscape would truly be a tribute to being a force in Southern California. I participated in weighing food scraps when I was in undergrad (now in grad school at USC) and the amount of waste was incredible. There must be a way compost and increase donations to non-profits. Pair up with sustainable retailers for the book store and food vendors. Push for environmental policies at the law school and poly-sci majors. Participate in Meatless Monday. The time to act is now!! Be a leader in sustainability!

Sustainable energy Get the frick rid of plastics on campus (NO MORE WATER BOTTLES IN SEEDS!!) Better bike lanes surrounding campus

Mind how much energy the University consumes and how that energy is generated.

Work on integrating sustainability into every student's education or onboarding

Increase number of recycling bins on campus; increase awareness of the wrigley institute's existence and sustainability initiatives, increase appealing vegan options at dining halls

-Composting -Expand sustainability dept -Ensure all majors know what role sustainability plays in their career

renewable energy (solar panels) to power USC composting in dining halls and residential halls

Decrease energy usage by having more LEED certified buildings (since power contracts are unlikely to be renegotiated to allow for the installation of wide-spread solar). Benchmark waste streams. have more sustainably purchasing options.

Find more engaging ways to teach students how they can make changes in their lives as individuals to be more sustainable, and show them that it's not difficult to do. Students need to be educated and aware about how they can be environmental stewards, and feel like those options are accessible to them.

-improve temperature control in classrooms; right after spring break, it seems that every single classroom is blasting cold air, and I find myself bringing jackets for class; this is a huge waste of energy -strengthen current environmental/sustainability degree programs with application-based courses rather than just knowledge-based courses -incorporate sustainability courses into its existing degree programs (e.g. sustainable supply chain management or sustainability in business for Marshall; sustainable film sets for the film school, etc.) -do a better job of making sustainability visible - recycling bins and compost bins with appropriate signage/instructions need to be CO-LOCATED with trash bins everywhere; otherwise students get into the habit of putting everything in the trash and will carry that behavior with them elsewhere -new buildings should be constructed with sustainability in mind: solar panels, green architecture, etc.

USC should try to implement more sustainable development (ex. Solar panels) to become net-zero in carbon emissions

Get a STARS certification and give more support to environmental science students

spread more word about sustainability events, less use of plastic for on campus dining, more vegan options in dining halls, more water fountains around campus (not just in buildings)

solar panels! divest from fossil fuels! wastewater regeneration and substitution! ban on single use plastics! educate students on how to properly recycle (but reducing is more important)! implement sustainability into more curriculums- climate change is the biggest threat the earth is facing right now!!!!

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Not waste so much water. Many of the athletic fields are watered in the middle of the day and many of the gardeners clean the sidewalks, streets and other areas using water.

Decrease the use of plastic on campus, and increase awareness among students about zero waste and recycling

I think USC should care more about making the building and the environment more sustainable (eg. more native plants, new equipment, alternative energy sources, less single use plastic) and in encouraging students to change their daily habits for the better

As a staff member, I see a lot of paper being printed. Let's cut that waste down and send electronic agendas and files. Invest in biodegradable utensils, plates, bowls, reusable straws, etc since eating food is something we do often. Invest in more sortable garbage cans.

Make sure to include HSC campus in sustainability concerns. Need visible battery recycling program with multiple drop off locations in all buildings

Look into solar power potential of campus. Work on shutting out more lights and machinery when not in use.

More education in regards to recycling, and more recycling bins on campus. Create a mandatory class, GE, that students have to take to be more aware of sustainability

Install more recycle bins, especially on the health science campus. There are currently no recycling options outside the buildings. This would be an easy fix! Get recycling bins onto patios and places where people eat.

Decrease waste/meat consumption in dining halls, better waste education for students + more recycling bins everywhere, responsible sourcing of products (food and otherwise), plastic ban, better managing lights and A/C in buildings (way excessive and lights stay on at night in empty buildings EVERYWHERE), hire more sustainability-oriented staff in EVERY department (there should be a sustainability point person for each department), creating incentives + funding for development of sustainability-oriented "living laboratories" on campus, composting bins in residential halls, increased funding for maintenance + improvement of Parkside Garden and Native Plants plots, DIVESTING from shitty industries ESPECIALLY fossil fuels.

Create action plans and execute the goals within the near future. Currently, the HSC campus has limited resources for sustainability and very few recycling bins. Also, increasing awareness and incentives for members of the community to prioritize the initiative and work together to move toward a sustainable future.

Ban single use plastics Meatless Monday's Purple line

Spread the word/implement more policies that make composting/recycling mandatory

The university should make sure that the students know where to find the recycling bin and what building was the water machines to avoid using plastic bottles.

Incentives for public transportation Have more recycling and composting areas Ban straws on campus

Reduce carbon emissions by using electric transportation vehicles, reduce waste as much as possible. Grow awareness in all campuses.

STOP putting one big trash bin for the the trash shoots that students actively try to recycle with! Implement more solar panels throughout campus!

Solar panels!

Less waste and more trees.

Increase food waste awareness and single use plastic usage rates

usc should encourage knowledge and every student independently being responsible for their sustainability and actually caring about it

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Ban plastic

We should be building a culture of sustainability and stewardship for our community and environment. This involves marketing and communication and giving the USC community reasons to be proud and engaged. We need this culture shift more than any individual improvement. Once sustainability becomes an everyday word, and not a point of contention, the programs will flow from there with less resistance and more funding.

-More recycling bins! (maybe have them next to the trash cans, so they're clearly visible and accessible to everyone) -More initiatives at HSC (currently very limited options for sustainability; including dining, housing, recycling, more water bottle refill stations, etc.) -Bathrooms with automatic flushing and sinks often run water much longer than is needed, wasting a lot of water; these should be re-calibrated so they use less water -Education should be offered, but not made mandatory (mandatory education typically turns people off of the goal) -Make sustainability fun and easy to do; otherwise, people will continue to ignore it

Probably increasing overall student/staff/faculty awareness would be a good starting point and that means more than recycling! Keep up the good work!

reduce single-use and environmental waste!!!!

Ban single-use items. Give a small tuition discount for actively participating in sustainable lifestyle choices. I'm in the PA Program on the Alhambra campus and it's very isolating, we don't get the benefits on being at HSC so I hope they don't forget about us here when developing sustainable plans. For example the current shuttle bus from Alhambra has a unrealistic schedule and none of my classmates have been able to utilize it because our class schedules conflict.

More recycling options

SOLAR PANELS ON THE BUILDINGS

Update the buildings to be more efficient and increase the motivation for utilizing public transit and ride-sharing. Offer flex parking options for faculty/staff so that they can buy passes and park in a lot 2 or 3 times a week at a discount and take public transit/ride share the other days.

I think USC should provide transportation incentives to staff and faculty, including bringing back monthly support towards public transportation for staff and faculty who want to take advantage of that. I think that USC should provide staff and faculty and students incentives for having EVs on campus, such as free charging stations. I think that USC should eliminate plastic university wide. These to start I believe is reasonable and can have an impact on behaviors to be more sustainable. I think also that all residential dining halls and housing facilities should start small with sustainable projects, such as pilot some with voice from students, this includes collecting data to identify outcomes and benefits. If proven to be effective to grow every year in efforts. Finally, I think that if USC moves to have more degrees on sustainability, that it is important to grow research on this topic at USC, including having more staff and faculty information sessions and or conferences and or continuing education on this topic given it relates to all of us and pertains to all of our behaviors as staff and faculty.

Provide more Vegan options and increase areas to compost as a community on UPC and HSC.

more awareness about recycling around campus, and making changes to both UPC AND HSC (everything goes to UPC first). I was told once that USC goes thru all trash to find and remove recyclables, is this true? Introduce composting in all dining halls, and food donation programs. Recycle ALL types of plastic, and spend the money to recycle even the more difficult types of plastics (we know USC has the money to do so). Encourage and incentivize ride sharing among staff and faculty. Have sustainability liaisons in all departments and offices who work together with the central office.

Utilize renewable energy in most, if not all, buildings on campus. Provide better insulation for older buildings to ensure less energy loss for temperature mitigation.

Teach its students how they can be more sustainable on a daily basis, inform them of the resources available to them

Be aware of how many students they have and accommodate for the appropriate amount of water bottle refill stations, recycling bins, etc.

The pollution to our air

Greater use of solar power, reducing single-use plastics when catering on-campus events, more recycling bins, divesting from oil & gas

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Energy

walk and throw trash away, dont waste food and buy less things

Being aware of the amount of garbage and waste we produce. Not buying plastic water bottles/using reusable coffee mugs at starbucks.

spread more awareness, create clubs

Make sure students know how to recycle and compost

Campus wide ban on plastic

Expanding this program to the HSC campus, especially water bottle filling stations and better dining options that are sustainable and healthy. Adding in a compost bin to the HSC campus- there's so little going on over there and it's the face of the health field for USC, yet there's a link missing in the communication between the environment and sustainable food/housing and one's physical and mental health. This is a huge issue and small steps can easily begin to close this gap.

encourage students through sustainability initiatives. with a large student body acting on those initiatives, we'll make way more impact than one office

Expand current recycling and sustainability efforts Work in classrooms throughout the University to promote sustainability Work in the neighborhoods to Increase these efforts Work in high schools and middle schools to increase these efforts and create community shared programs

Limit single use paper and plastic materials.

Increase vegan options and implement the use of biodegradable food packaging (no plastic)

More recycling bins and maybe offering a GE course on the practices of sustainability

more water fountain/ filters around campus,, ban on water bottles

Stop printing flyers for things that aren't used. Put food compost bins all over campus. Allow people to take food home from dining halls to reduce waste. Donate leftover food to homeless shelters/provide funding for donations in USC budget

Manage garbage and waste from residential dining halla

USC needs to make sure that faculty, staff, and students are aware of existing sustainability opportunities on campus. As a staff member located on HSC, I was not aware of many of these initiatives and by being unaware, I missed out on participating. It's important to get this buy in before expanding.

Clarify whether recycling bins can take all recyclables or just paper

Make sure recycling is happening. There is a lack of recycle bins at least in CHP on the Health Science campus. The Keck cafeteria also does not seem to recycle even though they give out plastic containers for food. These basics should at least be covered.

Los Angeles county has a population of a little over 10 million people and has an area 4,084 square miles; this being said, the vast majority of the population commutes via car to and from work. As one of the largest private employers in Los Angeles county, I believe USC should look into a "park and ride" program (see Dodger Stadium and Hollywood Bowl) throughout the county to promote ride sharing, perhaps even offering some kind of incentive to employees that participate. As someone who lives in the South Bay, I do not know others who I can carpool with and public transportation is not viable. I would much rather park at safe and local area and take a safe/clean bus/shuttle to work.

FMS is replacing the sensor light switches with toggle switches when the sensors go bad. I think USC should stay with the sensor switches.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Ensure sustainability efforts are applicable/open to students, staff, and faculty to participate. Don't be afraid to make things mandatory for everyone (i.e. single-use plastic ban), but also make sure there are incentives for "opt-in" programs. Thank you for making this a university priority!!

Increase visibility and availability of recycling bins throughout campus, both outside and inside of buildings. Review catering services to minimize food waste from over preparing for events in combination with exploring opportunities for appropriate distribution of left-over food if it is not able to be donated (e.g., providing eco-conscious carry-out containers to event hosts/guests). Create grand challenges that require partnership among interdepartmental students, faculty, and staff to develop ideas/programs for promoting sustainability. Increase recognition, inclusion and visibility of sustainability efforts on HSC - this campus has always been somewhat of an afterthought or oversight in planning and conversation.

Improve transportation. Work with the city to improve bicycling infrastructure especially near campuses.

Educate in-vivo to change behavior; there are compost/recycle/landfill bins in EVK, but I often hear students saying they don't know what goes into what bin. I've also heard people (students, faculty, staff) get confused about what products can be recycled, which ones USC actually recycles, how you are supposed to rinse/clean recyclables prior to dumping them, and what happens to the recycling once it gets taken from our offices. For example, a colleague of mine said the lady who collects the trash and recycling just dumps everything into one trash bin when she collects, which disincentivizes everyone in the office from actually recycling.

Go green, paper-wise. There is a LOT of printing going on when plenty of these files can be electronic. Digitizing systems and processes that involve physical/printed documents will take a while, yes, but it is possible (e.g. the LA County's various departments are currently undergoing these transitions and they predict that for a single department, this could only take 1 - 3 years with a small dedicated team). This is all specifically referring to staff and faculty. It starts with us; worrying about the waste students produce can be tackled simultaneously, but we need to set examples.

USC should have fewer meat options in dining halls, and it REALLY must start dealing with ALL food waste appropriately. EVERY building should be equipped with solar panels. Native plants should be introduced throughout campus, and lawns should be replaced wherever possible. Watering should only happen at night.

Impact analysis (i.e. how much could a sustainability proposal lower USC carbon emissions). I suspect most projects (trash reduction, electric scooters, plastic bans, etc.) won't have much impact on the targets that matter most. For students living on campus, diet, energy use, and transportation currently contribute most to our footprints. Within diet, local-source/organic is such a distractor from the real source of food emissions--meat. Dining halls ought not highlight both local/organic and vegan lifestyle changes as similarly effective, because it dangerously misleads people and makes them falsely believe they can just buy farmers market produce to lower their footprint. More veg options are important, but they should be made in a way to appeal to meat eaters (i.e. run a study on students and see what's effective). Transportation emissions around LA seems less important (compared to diet and energy use) for most non-commuter students. I'd suspect on-campus students produce more emissions from flying to and from US + vacations than taking ubers/public transit/biking around LA. Any transport solutions should be evidence-based and pragmatically designed. Energy is just a silly issue at USC. Telling students to turn off the lights and not sourcing clean renewable energy is at worst dishonest and at worst highly misleading to students, who may start believing they can accomplish significant energy reductions without making real changes. Clean energy reduces overall emissions to 0 (100%); could conservation efforts reduce emissions by 20%? I doubt it? But if they could, these conservation efforts would come from radical changes to building infrastructure, and energy usage around campus, across many different schools and administrative departments. How high would these costs be compared to just throwing a few damn solar panels on top of the Galen Center??? if USC can't manage clean energy... all other efforts are really trivial -- better for USC to build solar projects elsewhere in the world to offset its footprint than pursue low-impact, highly-inconvenient token changes on campus

As a general point, focus on upgrades/policies that will reduce waste -- waste of food, electricity, water, you name it. More specific ideas? Develop a well-defined sustainable product procurement policy. Distance the university from fossil fuels, in terms of actual energy usage (more renewables) and DIVESTMENT. Make landscaping choices all throughout campus to plant California native species.

To be more truthful of what sustainable projects are in place currently, and not just listing stuff that USC is supposedly doing so that it looks good on paper and to stick with sustainable efforts and individuals who can check up and are knowledgeable in these efforts (example-- in Cardinal and Gold which on paper is advertised as sustainable, especially with composting units, but in which composting was removed within the first month and with an RA and staff who was not willing to provide aid or who overall did not have sustainability knowledge).

Make it prioritized and visible throughout campus and campus culture.

Prioritize sustainability. Do not accept being woefully behind the UCs.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

USC needs to increase its institutional support for sustainability initiatives by increasing funding and resources for the Office of Sustainability, placing key workers in various departments across the school focused primarily on sustainability concerns in order to advance projects and initiatives for transforming the school. In addition to this, increased funding for research and education efforts to create "living laboratories" incubators for student involvement in sustainability initiatives would also increase the engagement of USC's civic actors in promoting environmentalism. Finally, USC should expand its outreach into the community and work with stakeholders from the LA Cleantech Incubator and the Mayor's Office of Sustainability to provide to the community in the form of native plant plots throughout Los Angeles, renewable energy fed into the power grid, and many more community-minded initiatives.

-Become a leader in regional sustainability. LA is becoming a national leader in sustainability by adopting very ambitious goals. Why doesn't USC strive to be a leader in the private/educational sphere? The future is sustainable, and we're really missing a marketing opportunity if we don't become a leader. (Greenwashing doesn't cut it; results speak more than PR.) As a private institution, we have the agility and ability to do this. It may require hiring more sustainability staff, and/or designing a more permanent, accountable sustainability committee. -The new recycling system roll-out has been terrible! There's been zero communication to students, so many think we still have single stream. The new multi-bin cans are placed in bizarre locations where people don't often have garbage (and hence most of the garbage is nearly empty garbage bags). Was there any analysis done to place the cans? It seems random. Also, why are there no recycling bins in classrooms or offices? There should always be a recycle can next to any garbage can. The whole system is confusing, and doesn't seem comprehensively planned. -The compost program is similarly poorly planned. Students in dining halls don't know what to compost! Put up some signs, and hire a few work-study students to be educators. It's not rocket science. The system is not failing by design, it's failing because there's been no communication. Work with the Annenberg School if the communication challenge is too great. -Transportation is difficult because critical issues extend beyond the campus area. Commuting by metro can be too time-consuming for some neighborhoods. How feasible would it be to have small buses or vanpools that pick up / drop off in some neighborhoods a couple times during commute hours (e.g., Hollywood, Highland Park, etc.)? If they made stops similar to the train but had a more direct route, it would be much faster than the bus or train. Maybe it's not feasible, just a thought. -Make sustainability-related staff accountable for meeting or failing to meet sustainability goals.

Education of students, faculty, and staff!

The most important action USC can take is exercising their political power, as the largest employer in our area and a massive source of income and innovation for LA (among other traits), to influence LA City Council, US Congressional Representatives, LADWP and other political organizations to take urgent actions in cooperation with USC to combat climate change, conserve resources, and preserve our environment.

Increasing use of renewable energy and decreasing overall energy use would be great. There should also be recycling bins around campus.

I think in a lot of the "ranking" questions before this, USC should be doing all of those things, and I found it difficult to rank from 1-5. USC has not had any sort of history with sustainability and we fall so far drastically behind as compared to our peer institutions. I believe we should first tackle waste on our campus such as food waste in dining halls, single-use plastic waste, recycling, etc. I think the only way to make progress on these issues is educating and incentivizing students because students today don't think or talk about sustainability.

Increase budgeting and ESPECIALLY communication at all levels for sustainable projects. There needs to be far more coordination on sustainability between staff, faculty, and students across all schools and campuses. Work with ECore to pay for and make their Native Plants plot conversions easier.

USC needs to increase its sustainability staffing into an office of at least 5 or 6 full time experts who can actually evaluate and manage the human, administrative and operations infrastructures necessary to reach goals that would truly move us towards leadership in sustainability; and then it needs to make the funds available to implement what the sustainability office arrives at. Examples: a full staff position for integrating teaching and research with facilities and operations to make Living Lab work possible without; a full position on energy management that can analyze not only how to make campus systems more efficient, but also evaluate partnerships in renewable energy etc. to find the fastest and most efficient and affordable way to arrive at carbon neutrality in, say, 10 years or less. etc.; a full position evaluating procurement practices, contracts and licensing to bring us closer to zero waste and effective diversion; etc.

Put up signs that tell students how to compost (which foods can be compostable) in the dining halls. Educate students about the importance of water/food/energy sustainability. Redirect extra food to homeless shelters.

Remove nonnative plants and add native plant landscaping so the sprinklers do not need to go on every night

Integrate our academic, research, and operations programs so that we are truly using the USC campuses and LA as a living lab for research and educational purposes.

What are the most important things USC should do to be more sustainable? (o...

Water conservation - I've seen sprinklers running on days when it rains, and the plants on campus aren't suited to a desert climate. Renewable energy infrastructure - ridiculous that we don't have solar panels yet live in Southern California. Increase green space on campus - green walls, maintaining lawns whenever possible. Increase collaboration with environmental justice movements near campus

Invest in changing user habits through widespread education and mandates. Emphasis on renewable energy resources

Use the endowments and donations solely towards sustainable initiatives. There's no need to continuously gentrify the neighborhood.

There is a lot of work for USC to do in terms of sustainability. I personally believe the educational aspect of sustainability is lacking at USC. I personally did not receive any sustainability training and despite the signs, always felt confused about proper practices. I think education through USC Housing is crucial and I really appreciate the incorporation of a sustainability-related GE!

have every student required to take a course in sustainability

Anything more than the bare minimum that we are doing. Engage in partnerships with well established businesses already focused on sustainability.

Quadruple the size of Office of Sustainability, and have an outpost on HSC

increase focus on health science campus!