



SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

@ RCCCD | RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT

Sustainability and Climate Action Sub-Committee

*March 11, 2026
Zoom Call
2:30p.m. – 4:00p.m.*

AGENDA

- I. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. January 28, 2026
- III. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**
- IV. SCAC MEMBERSHIP**
- V. MISSION, VISION, CHARGE**
- VI. SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (S-CAP)**
 - A. District Solar Project
 - B. Decarbonization/IEMP & TCO Dashboard
 - C. Car-Sharing Program Update
 - D. Waste Minimization (Integrated Waste & Recycling Program Management)
 - E. Grant Opportunities/Incentives
- VII. POLICIES & PROCEDURES**
 - A. EV Charging Station Policy
 - B. BP 5775 Sustainability & Environmental Responsibility
 - C. Car-Sharing Program – Clean Mobility Option
- VIII. NEW AGENDA ITEM(S); ADDITIONAL MATERIALS; PRESENTATION**
 - A. AI Use & SCAP Guidelines – Tonya Huff
 - B. Water Use – Tonya Huff
 - C. Energy Use – Tonya Huff



SUSTAINABILITY and CLIMATE ACTION SUB-COMMITTEE

January 28, 2026 Zoom Meeting 3:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS AND ATTENDEES:

Name	Title	Present YES/NO
Majd Askar	Moreno Valley College – Vice President Business Services	NO
Ron Kirkpatrick	Moreno Valley College – Director of Facilities M&O	NO
Fabian Biancardi	Moreno Valley College – Academic Senate Representative	NO
Laurie Crouse	Moreno Valley College – Classified Representative, CSEA	NO
Stephanie Ortega	Moreno Valley College – Student Representative	NO
Michael Collins	Norco College – Vice President Business Services	NO
Travonne Bell	Norco College – Director of Facilities M&O	NO
Meghan Chandler	Norco College – Academic Senate Representative	NO
Jeff Buch	Norco College – Classified Representative, CSEA	NO
Jilani Yusuf	Norco College – Student Representative	NO
TBD	Riverside City College – (Interim) Vice President Business Services	NO
Robert Beebe	Riverside City College – Director of Facilities M&O	YES
Tonya Huff	Riverside City College – Academic Senate Representative	YES
Peter Lomas	Riverside City College – Classified Representative, CSEA	NO
TBD	Riverside City College – Student Representative	NO
LaShe' Rodriguez	District – Director of Government Relations	NO
Misty Griffin	District – Director of Business Services	YES
Hussain Agah	District – Associate Vice Chancellor, FPD	YES
Mehran Mohtasham	District – Director of Capital Planning	YES
Myra Nava	District – Classified Representative, CSEA	YES
Mejgan Ahmadi	District – FPD (Recorder / Non-Voting Member)	YES
Ali Cooper	EVGIDE – Account Executive (Guest Presenter)	YES

Sustainability and Climate Action Sub-Committee is a permanent sub-committee that serves as the primary advisor on sustainability and climate action matters to the Resources Committee and then the DSPC. SCAC provides a collaborative forum for the exchange of information necessary in setting goals and priorities regarding sustainability and climate action procedures, policies, compliances, leadership, advocacy, implementation, monitoring and communication. SCAC works towards continuous evaluation and quality improvement to support and advance the institutional mission of the district that promotes sustainability decision-making and resiliency-thinking for climate action, social justice and resources conservation.

I. CALLED TO ORDER

- A. By Hussain Agah

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. No Quorum for January 28th meeting.

ACTION: *None*

III. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

A. District Strategic Planning Council Structure

1. The DSPC Structure was reviewed. There are (5) Committees reporting to the DSPC. The SCAC is part of the Equity, Social, Economic and Environmental Justice Committee that reports to VC Tammy Few.

ACTION: *Agah will report the SCAC meeting minutes and action items to DSPC as appropriate*

IV. SCAC MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership Approval and Introductions

1. The District Strategic Planning Council (DSPC) approved all membership and the charge for this sub-committee in February 2023 for the District's Sustainability Climate Action Planning (SCAC) meeting.
2. Introductions occurred and additional committee members recognized. Future changes in membership were reviewed.

ACTION: *Update membership when appropriate*

V. MISSION, VISION, CHARGE

A. Mission

The Riverside Community College District Sustainability Committee creates and advances the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan by providing advocacy, leadership, and direction as the plan is developed, updated, and implemented.”

B. Vision

We envision an RCCD where sustainability and resiliency-thinking are integral aspects of our culture and decision-making. We will demonstrate leadership in climate action, social justice and resource conservation.”

C. Charge

- **Goal Setting:** Build visionary and achievable Goals, objectives, and actions.
- **Integrated Planning:** Support institutional planning activities by articulating sustainable actions, practices, and principles in all aspects of the institution.
- **Policy Development:** Develop and/or recommend appropriate policies that promote sustainability and resiliency.
- **Implementation:**

- Recognize the differences of each College in its sustainability journey
- Build consensus around the prioritization and implementation of sustainability initiatives;
- Helping people to understand the opportunities, process, limits and costs of sustainability.
- **Monitoring:** Track sustainability progress and performance in each impact area annually.
- **Communication:** Provide an annual report that summarizes progress and future priorities.

VI. SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (S-CAP)

A. Plan Overview

1. Agah shared information regarding the new Proposition 4, the Climate Bond for California that is \$10B and will be on the November ballot. It is unclear if it will provide any funding for the community colleges. Rodriguez stated there may be opportunities for some funding depending on who we partner with and when we apply for it. Rodriguez reached out to Southern California Air Quality Resources Board (CARB) and is apply for grants as well called Community District Requests. The request includes 5 or 6 items from the SCAP plan that could be opportunities to seed funding and partnership.

B. Impact Areas

1. Agah reviewed the Plan-At-A-Glance and the impact areas of the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan which include the following, contain certain goals and can be discussed in the future:
 1. Decarbonization and Climate Justice
 2. Community Vitality
 3. Water and Ecosystems
 4. Waste Minimization
 5. Resiliency
 6. Engagement
 7. Academics
 8. Trust and Transparency
 9. Equity and Social Justice
 10. Community Partnerships
2. Agah stated the objectives within each impact area identify the short term, mid-term and long-term goals to achieve them within a reasonable time while finding a baseline and benchmark, provided an example which is item 1, suggested focusing on each one at specific times and stated these are this committee's Sustainability focus. The committee discussed the assessment, the process of prioritizing, the funding and procurement. Waste Management has been identified as a high priority item.

C. Waste Minimization and Management

1. Beebe discussed his previous experience regarding Waste Management, the best approach to follow and the key members to engage from this committee from the three colleges:
 - a. College Facilities Directors
 - b. Assistant Directors
 - c. Maintenance Managers
 - d. Food Services
 - e. College Safety Coordinators
 - f. Faculty members
 - g. TSS/IT for the e-waste component

2. Further discussion occurred regarding the plan components that need identified, including an assessment.
3. Agah stated two RFP's were found to customize for the district's needs. The scope of services will be discussed and brought to SCAC for review at the September meeting. RCC will engage students to be a part of the process.
4. Agah stated a Sustainability Manager is needed to further the the Sustainability Plan and the impact areas like Waste Management. FPD has been advocating for the position.
5. Beebe stated meetings with consultants reveled there is a way to conduct a Waste Management study which includes having the waste stream analyzed 1 time, or one poll, by your waste management company. RCC had this done by Burrtec. The study found that 15% of one poll was recyclable materials. But there are recycle and green waste bins on campus that would need to be weighed to figure out the whole amount of recycle material on campus. This process would save money compared to hiring companies producing the same results.

ACTION:

- *Work on Impact Areas at the college level to achieve goals*
- *Form the Waste Management task force*
- *FPD and Beebe meet to discuss scope of work and proposals from vendors for a waste management assessment*
- *Invite Laurie McQuay-Peninger, Executive Director, Office of Grants/Sponsored Programs, to a meeting to discuss Grant opportunities*

D. District Solar Project

1. Agah reported that the District's Solar Project has been completed and provided an overview of the project details. The total project budget was \$37.2 million, which includes \$34.6 million from TotalEnergies and \$2.6 million for soft costs and contingencies. Agah noted that three components of the project—RCC, BCTC, and the CAADO structure—were completed ahead of schedule. He also shared that the administrative policy for EV charging stations has been drafted and is currently being finalized, with plans to present it to the Board for approval in March 2026.
2. Agah highlighted several funding incentives that supported the project, including \$1,000,000 from SGIP for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) across MVC, NC, and RCC, as well as \$450,000 from the Clean Mobility Options (CMO) program for 15 EV charging station infrastructure and equipment installations. He also noted that the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provides tax credits of up to 30% of project costs with an additional 10% bonus, with estimated credits of \$7.5 million to \$8.5 million.
3. Agah explained that each campus will post its energy offset and savings data on their respective websites. He added that the Solar PV and BSS Dashboard will allow the District to track energy production, usage, and cost savings across campuses.

ACTION: *Continue to provide update to campus community about the progress.*

4. **TotalEnergies RCCD Solar Education Program:** Scott Schumacher, Account Executive for TotalEnergies, presented the RCCD Solar Education Program and stated it is a requirement of the RFP. A portion of what TotalEnergies likes to include to all customers in the education segment is the educational outreach program. Each program is custom developed for the type of educational facility that TotalEnergies works with, and ensures the programs make sense for an elementary school all the way up to the college level. RCCD's package is made up of three components: In-classroom, Service Learning and Professional Development.
 - i. **In-classroom:** Designed by TotalEnergies with third party educators who are qualified to put together lesson plans and curriculum, information was provided by TotalEnergies experts in solar projects. Guest instructors and mentors can be provided for real-world experience doing the construction work and the upfront work, developing and putting together a real-world layout.

TotalEnergies also donates solar equipment to the campuses to have real equipment for the lesson plans.

Q: Agah asked how many classroom learning sessions will be conducted, will they be at all three colleges.

A: Schumacher stated the lesson plans can be distributed via pdf to all campuses with no restrictions. The guest instructors and mentors could be divided to have one for each campus. If that is not enough, TotalEnergies could find additional speakers to do two presentations annually, two at each campus for a total of six, possibly one in spring and one in fall. The Solar Equipment Panel donation would be provided equally to each campus, they would not have to share. From an equitability perspective there should not be any issues with the in-classroom piece.

Q: Agah asked if all of the colleges are interested in a combined Zoom class component could that be done in place of in-person classes.

A: Schumacher stated the lesson plans are intended to be curriculum that can be added into specific classes at the various colleges that deal specifically with the generation of solar electricity, how solar works, etc. The access to the monitoring data can be accessed through a website that shows real-time production from the solar Pv that is installed at each campus and across the district. Basically, a URL that anyone with a web browser could use to see and incorporate into the campus through an iPad or computer in the classroom, e.g. if the system at NC is producing 3,400 Kw hours, that is the equivalent of twenty homes over the course of at least three years since it became operational, and would be the equivalent of planting 10,000 trees. The data is available as part of the monitoring system.

ii. **Service Learning:** Also known as In the Field Learning, is partnered with Grid Alternatives, an organization that gets donations from companies like TotalEnergies along with many other solar developers in the U.S. They take the equipment and install it on low-income homes at no cost to the homeowner. They also train people how to do the installation so that by the time they have finished working with Grid Alternatives they are ready to go out and get a job doing solar installations on either residential or commercial projects. Grid Alternatives is a great organization that is tackling low income and training individuals to get established in new careers in the solar business. They also have field days where they bring in people who may know nothing about doing solar installation. Schumacher has done this as a volunteer through TotalEnergies who provided the required donation to volunteer. The volunteers are either on the ground learning about how to install the inverters or on the rooftop putting the railing and modules onto the roof. TotalEnergies will make a \$10,000 donation that would cover the required volunteer donation as well as transportation and lunch. They will coordinate with a local Riverside Grid Alternatives to enable up to 1 faculty and 2 students from each campus to participate and volunteer. The students would meet together on a weekend and participate in a single installation giving them the opportunity to participate hands on. Agah will collaborate with the colleges' Sustainability Committees. A solar installation usually takes 3 days to complete. 1 day participation might be possible, Schumacher will report back regarding that.

iii. **Professional Development:** For one or more faculty members who are interested in learning more, or in getting a full certificate from Solar Energy International (SEI) who offers a variety of programs so they can teach the curriculum. TotalEnergies would contribute \$5,000 towards the professional development to be divided however the district chooses. One course would be approximately \$1,000, the full certificate of 5 programs would be \$5,000. The donation would be extended to 2026.

Q: Schumacher asked if any of the colleges already have courses devoted to energy or solar electricity. Would one college benefit more than another?

A: Agah stated they will find out.

a. Decarbonization/IEMP & TCO Dashboard

- i. Mohtasham stated the links have not been shared with the committee. Meetings with DLR, district IT and the group providing the web services for the district revealed issues that must be resolved before they can be shared and used. The links should be issued to the committee by the end of August. DLR will provide a demonstration to SCAC from the district website link to walk through the Dashboard and answer questions. A districtwide communication will be sent when it is ready to share.
- ii. [Decarbonization & IEMP Dashboard Link](#)
- iii. [Total Cost of Ownership \(TCO\) Dashboard Link](#)

ACTION: *None*

b. Car-Sharing Program

- i. Mohtasham explained that the first phase involved the District receiving a state grant after completing and submitting the required application, which was approved. He added that the second phase included issuing an RFQP, which resulted in two proposals—one from EVGIDE and one from another company. Mohtasham noted that the contract is expected to be finalized within the next two weeks. Agah then invited Ali Cooper to provide additional details regarding the program's implementation and projected timeline.
- ii. Ali Cooper (EVGIDE) presented the RCCD Carshare Launch Update. The program, initiated in 2020 and funded by the State of California through the Clean Mobility Options program, operates under a five-year agreement with RCCD and follows a return-to-base model. EVGIDE serves as the mobility operator and consultant, and the program will provide electric vehicles across RCC, MVC, NC, BCTC, and the District. Phase one includes nine vehicles total: three at RCC, two at MVC, two at NC, one at the District, and one at BCTC. Students, faculty, staff, and community members will be able to use the vehicles, with discounted rates for campus users and higher rates for community members.
- iii. Mohtasham asked about charging procedures and whether there is a mileage cap. Cooper explained that users can charge vehicles at campus chargers or other community stations and will pay for charging, but can earn free drive credit through incentives when returning vehicles fully charged. There is no minimum or maximum mileage, though a \$20 fee will apply if vehicles are returned without charging.
- iv. Agah asked Huff how the program could be marketed to students. Huff suggested presenting the program to the Student Sustainability Collective, which can then share information with student representatives across committees and clubs, such as the Interclub Council. Huff also noted that many students in her field ecology courses face transportation barriers, making the program valuable.
- v. Huff asked when the EV charging policy would be available for review and noted that some charging stations listed online appeared non-operational. Agah responded that the policy will be presented in March and, once approved by the Board, will be available publicly. He also explained that RCC was connected to the grid in November and MVC and NC in December. Beebe added that 13 non-operational charging stations at MVC cannot currently be repaired due to outdated parts and will remain offline until a solution is identified. Agah further noted that those stations were originally installed at no cost and that current EV charging rates are \$2.50 per kilowatt hour. He also confirmed that the EV dashboard has not yet been posted to the website.

- i. **ACTION:**

- FPD will coordinate to ensure designated parking spaces for the carshare vehicles are clearly identified and aligned across campuses. Spaces will be striped and equipped with appropriate signage, including QR codes for registration and vehicle check-out access. The EV Charging Station Policy will be shared with the committee for review and feedback. The solar usage dashboard will also be launched across all campuses once it is finalized.
- EVGIDE will develop a program engagement and outreach plan and share it with the three colleges for review, coordination, and implementation.
- FPD will review four vendor proposals for EV charging station management platforms, select a vendor, and incorporate the platform into the policy for Board approval. All EV charging information, including hourly charging rates, will also be added to each campus parking webpage.

b. Award

- i. Agah shared the news of the (3) S-CAP Awards that were presented to RCCD at the Chancellor's office in Sacramento on November 13, 2023. The S-CAP was recognized by the Board of Governors as being an innovative plan.

c. Grant Opportunities

- i. Agah shared details about Grant Opportunities, the links which were provided on the agenda for this meeting. Nava shared information regarding the Communities-In Charge grant that is available. The link on the agenda provides a lot of information and needs to be studied to complete as a district. Nava is verifying eligibility in relation to the grant that was just received. Askar suggested to route this through the District grants department. Agah discussed additional grant opportunities that are available that will create infrastructure to support the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan item 5.1, Resiliency. Nava provided details.

ACTION: None

VII. POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- a. Agah agreed and provided details regarding framework and the benefits of using the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE, <https://www.aashe.org/>) framework. This framework is something the State Chancellor's Office wants us to use. It allows us to post a lot of information online.
- b. Agah stated the District's Sustainability Policy #5775 is old, from 2012 and should be updated. It should be updated based on the approved Sustainability Climate Action Plan.
- c. Agah requested Huff to provide details of RCC's Sustainability committee and how they could integrate with this committee. Huff stated it makes sense to have the Faculty Chair from the 3 campus Sustainability Committees be a part of SCAC to facilitate the integration. As SCAC begins implementing the bigger projects it can be the resource for the individual campuses, either helping to collect data or educate people, and do whatever is needed to implement the broader policies that the district is able to bring into effect. Also, implement a general education around sustainability on the campuses on a regular basis and suggests discussing with the Academic Senate Presidents about having a representative from each campus Sustainability Committee would help the colleges understand what is happening on the district level.
- d. Agah asked if there has been a task force identified at MVC and NC, are they active and how the SCAC can help them, if possible. Biancardi stated he has not heard of one at MVC; Askar stated

the task force has been created, more faculty were being brought in to support it and meetings need to be scheduled.

- e. Agah stated it would be beneficial for each college to create their own Sustainability webpage, to piggyback on the District's webpage.

ACTION:

- *Assemble a committee to review the framework and update the Sustainability Policy #5775*
- *Research the process to have the college webmaster create their own Sustainability webpage*

VIII. NEW AGENDA ITEM(S)

A. Agah reported that the Board approved moving forward with recruitment for the Sustainability Programs Director position. He explained that the position will be posted soon with an anticipated start date of June or July. Agah noted that the role will help advance District sustainability initiatives and will include responsibilities such as overseeing sustainability goals, pursuing grant funding, co-chairing SCAC, and supporting related contracts and dashboard development.

B. Agah asked Huff, a Climate Fellow with the State Chancellor's Office (SCO), how the District could partner with the SCO to secure funding and advance sustainability initiatives. Huff explained that her current work focuses on student engagement through student fellows who help implement programs across four key areas: Facilities, Community Engagement, Workforce Development, and Curriculum. She also noted that the initiative is working to develop a shared database of resources and available grants that campuses can easily access. Agah suggested that the District review the SCAP, particularly the waste management and minimization components, as a potential starting point for collaboration.

C. Huff shared that landscape assessments have been conducted across community college campuses statewide to evaluate sustainability progress and highlight successful initiatives. She explained that these assessments include examples and case stories showing how campuses implemented programs such as waste management efforts. Huff added that the online platform housing this information is still under development and noted that six students funded by the Chancellor's Office are assisting with the work.

MEETING FREQUENCY

- B. The committee agreed to meet every other month.

ACTION:

- *Exchange emails to determine agenda items for the next meeting*

ADJOURN

End of Meeting Minutes-