



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Eisenbeisz & Assembly Members
Thru: John Leach, Municipal Administrator
From: Bri Gabel, Sustainability Coordinator
Date: April 22, 2026
Subject: **Approve Sustainability Commission 2026-2027 Goals and Work Plan**

Background

Throughout February and March, the Sustainability Commission held work sessions to review and revise the goals from the Assembly-approved [2025-2026 Work Plan](#), and developed a work plan for 2026-2027. At the April 6th, 2026, regular meeting, the Sustainability Commission unanimously approved goals and contents of the draft Sustainability Commission 2026-2027 Work Plan (enclosed).

The goals and supporting actions in the Sustainability Commission's 2026-2027 Work Plan are:

1. Continue supporting municipal operations.

- a. Scope the municipal greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory with City Staff.
- b. Identify key data sources for municipal GHG emissions inventory.
- c. Focus on operational improvements to support emission reduction of the municipal fleet.

2. Continue exploring a regional approach to sustainability.

- a. Connect with neighboring communities with similar bodies to identify overlaps in goals.
- b. Identify opportunities to collaborate with other CBS bodies to broadly integrate the principles of sustainability.
- c. Support the Alaska marine highway system service to improve reliability, sustainability, and frequency.
- d. Support other regional sustainability efforts, such as improving energy efficiency.

3. Continue collaborating with city staff on strategic management of municipal solid waste (MSW).

- a. Engage with the public works director to determine best ways for the sustainability Commission to support MSW management.
- b. Revisit and revise the solid waste advisory group with input from the new director, develop a group charter, and update the 2024 SWOT analysis.
- c. Draft recommendations from the findings of the Waste to Energy Technical Assistance.

4. Finalize the [Sitka Community Renewable Energy Strategy \(SCRES\)](#).

- a. Promote resources and findings in the education modules and the 2023 Sitka Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.
- b. Determine next steps for the GHG emissions inventory.
- c. Support the Assembly in adoption of the final strategy.

Analysis

Many of the goals and actions remain the same as the 2025-2026 Work Plan, as federal administration changes, quorum challenges, and staff vacancies made making progress challenging. However, the Commission was still able to take some notable actions and move forward certain goals, despite these challenges.

As in previous work plans, details about involved CBS departments, estimated time intensity, timeframe, and budget (if applicable) of each goal are outlined in the work plan document. Additionally, information about supporting actions (next steps) are also summarized.

Recommendation

Approve the Sustainability Commission's 2026-2027 Goals and Work Plan.

ENCL:

Draft Sustainability Commission 2026-2027 Work Plan