

Preamble

The energy and sustainability procedures provide goals and guidance to achieve energy conservation, sustainable building, facilities-management best practices, and integration across the district.

A. Management and Organizational Structure

The district shall establish sustainability policies and procedures consistent with the California Community Colleges Board of Governors Energy and Sustainability Policies of 2008, and their May 20, 2019 Resolution on Climate Change and Sustainability Goals and Policy, which align with the Climate Adaption Strategies developed by the State of California.. The district shall establish an effective structure to support an integrated approach to sustainability across all campus functions and communities, including the establishment of a broad-based district sustainability committee.

B. Energy Efficiency

The district will seek continuous improvement in energy efficiency from year to year. Auditing and monitoring of ongoing energy use will be conducted. Improving energy efficiency will be a principal consideration when equipment is replaced and facilities are remodeled. Energy-efficiency goals should be set so that all major capital projects at a minimum meet LEED silver standards. All major renovation projects should at a minimum outperform the current Title 24 Standards The district shall develop a policy that takes advantage of all incentives available for these projects, including those available from the Community College System Office.

C. Facilities Operation

All district buildings and facilities, regardless of the source of funding for their operation, should be operated in the most energy-efficient manner without endangering public health and safety and without diminishing the quality of education. To achieve sustainability and energy conservation goals the District shall encourage and support on-going energy conservation efforts, trainings and sustainability initiatives which engage all students, faculty, staff and the community. The district will develop and maintain a computerized energy-management system to provide centralized reporting and control of campus energy-related activities. Scheduling of building and/or facility usage should be optimized consistent

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Effective Date: 6/7/11, 3/10/15, 7/7/22

References: Executive Order S-12-04

Government Code §§15814.30, 15814.31

Title 24, California Code of Regulations (CCR), including Part 6, Energy Code

CCLC Update: --

Steering: S/P / N/A

with the approved academic and nonacademic programs to reduce the number of buildings operating at partial or low occupancy. To the extent possible, academic and nonacademic programs should be consolidated in a manner to achieve the highest building utilization.

To complement this program, appropriate energy-efficiency set points for heating and cooling of district facilities will be set. These limits do not apply in areas where other temperature settings are required by law or by specialized needs of equipment or scientific experimentation. Interior and exterior lighting, as well as use of water, both indoors and outdoors, will have appropriate limits set to ensure efficiency and to reduce overall operating costs.

The scheduling of buildings should be implemented in a manner to promote central plant and individual building air-conditioning-system shutdown to the greatest extent possible during the weekend and other holiday periods. Campus energy/utilities managers should make all attempts to change or update building operating schedules to match the changes in the academic programs on a continuing basis.

Instructional classroom doors shall remain closed when HVAC is operating. Ensure doors between conditioned space and nonconditioned space remain closed at all times (i.e. between hallways and gym areas), unless provided emergency direction from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in response to a public health crisis or pandemic.

D. Sustainable Building Practices

New construction, remodeling, renovation, and repair projects should be designed with consideration of optimum energy utilization, low-life-cycle operating costs, and compliance with all applicable energy codes and regulations. Projects shall also follow goals, recommendations and standards specified in the MiraCosta Facilities Master Plan and District Design Standards and Guidelines Energy-efficient and sustainable-design features in the project plans and specifications need to be considered in balance with the academic program needs of the project within the available project budget.

The following elements should be considered in the design of all buildings:

1. Site and design considerations that optimize local geographic features to improve sustainability of the project.
2. Durable systems and finishes with long life cycles that minimize maintenance and replacement.
3. Optimization of layouts and design of spaces that can be reconfigured with the expectation that the facility should be renovated and reused versus demolished.
4. Systems designed for optimization of energy, water, and other natural resources.
5. Optimization of indoor environmental quality for occupants.
6. Utilization of environmentally preferable products and processes, such as recycled-content materials and recyclable materials.
7. Procedures that monitor and report operational performance, as compared to the optimal design and operating parameters.

8. Space should be provided in each building to support an active program for recycling and reuse of materials.

In order to implement the sustainable building goal in a cost-effective manner, the process should identify economic and environmental performance measures; determine cost savings; use extended-life-cycle costing; and adopt an integrated-systems approach. Such an approach treats the entire building as one system and recognizes the individual building features, such as lighting, windows, heating, and cooling.

E. On-Site Generation and Renewable Energy

The district will develop a strategic plan for energy procurement and production to reduce energy requirements from the electricity grid, to promote energy independence using available, economically feasible, renewable technology (solar, wind, biomass), and for on-site generation.

F. Transportation, Commuting, and Campus Fleet and Travel

The district will reduce vehicle miles traveled for both students and employees commuting to district campuses. Transportation patterns will be surveyed so that effective alternatives, such as public transportation and ride-sharing, can be effectively promoted. The district will also improve the efficiency of its vehicle fleet in areas of technology and fuels.

G. Water, Wastewater, and Sustainable Landscaping

Sustainable practices will be pursued in all matters of grounds and landscape management, including optimization of water efficiency through the use of irrigation controls, low-water plants, rainwater capture and reclaimed water; reduction of quantity and improvement in quality of runoff; the elimination of aggressive invasive species from campus plants; minimization of the grounds-keeping waste stream;; maximization of energy efficiency in grounds-keeping equipment; and development of a wildlife and native plant management strategy that supports habitat preservation within the campuses and surrounding areas.

H. Solid Waste Reduction and Management

The district will use the broadly established principles of “reduce, reuse, and recycle” in its solid-waste-management program. Areas of focus may include paper waste, food waste, landscaping waste, and construction waste. The district will cost-effectively minimize its solid waste flow to reduce both greenhouse gases and landfill deposits.

I. Green Purchasing

The district will establish purchasing policies to meet sustainability goals. Efforts will be made to minimize transportation of goods and other greenhouse-gas-related factors and packaging of goods and other waste-stream-related factors. Standards will be established for minimum recycled content of purchased goods, particularly paper. The district will strive to minimize the purchase of toxic materials, particularly in regards to facilities cleaning, and maintenance and grounds keeping.

J. Student and Curriculum Development

As a learning institution, MiraCosta College will become a model and classroom of sustainability for students, faculty, staff, and the community. The Instructional Services Division and Academic Senate will provide leadership and support in this regard through appropriate committee processes and professional development opportunities. The district will provide structured support and leadership for student involvement in campus and community sustainability activities.

K. Campus and Community Outreach and Awareness

The district will promote community outreach to generate community support for campus sustainability efforts and to diffuse sustainability practices into the community.

L. Climate Action Plan

The district will endeavor to monitor greenhouse gas emissions and develop and implement a plan for their reduction.