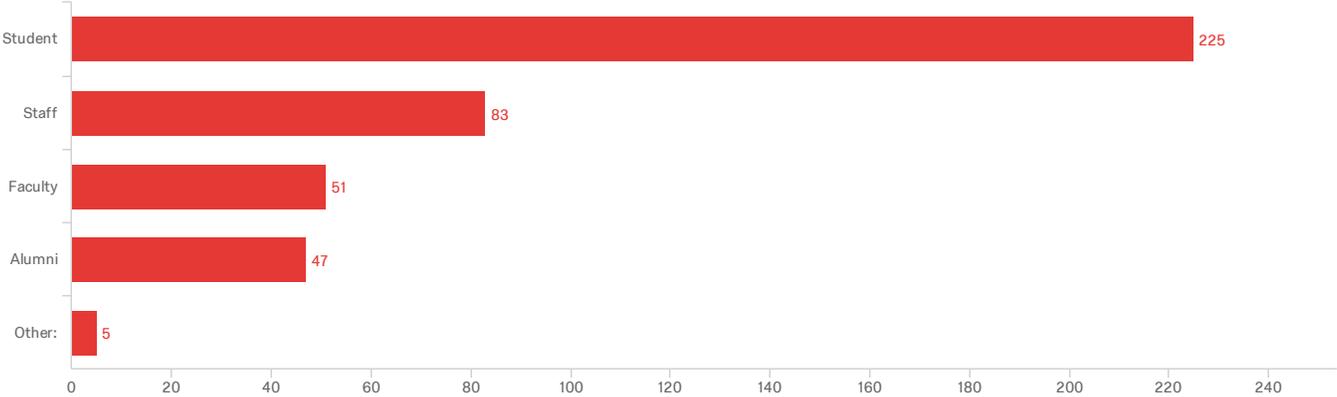


# Survey Results

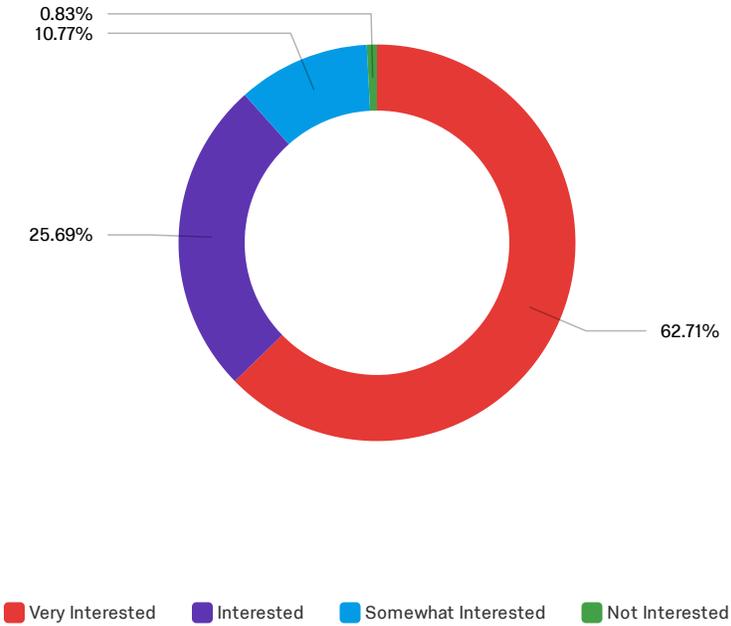
USC Sustainability 2028 Plan Survey

July 2, 2019 9:49 AM MDT

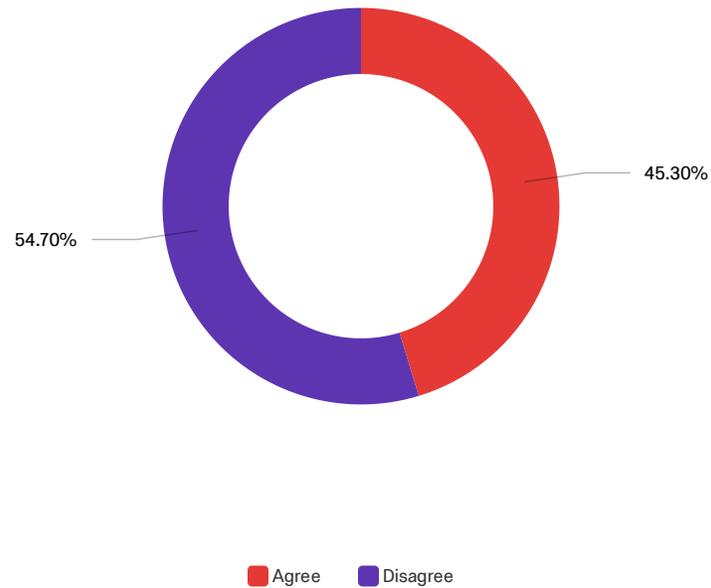
Please identify your USC affiliation (select all that apply) (1 of 11)



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

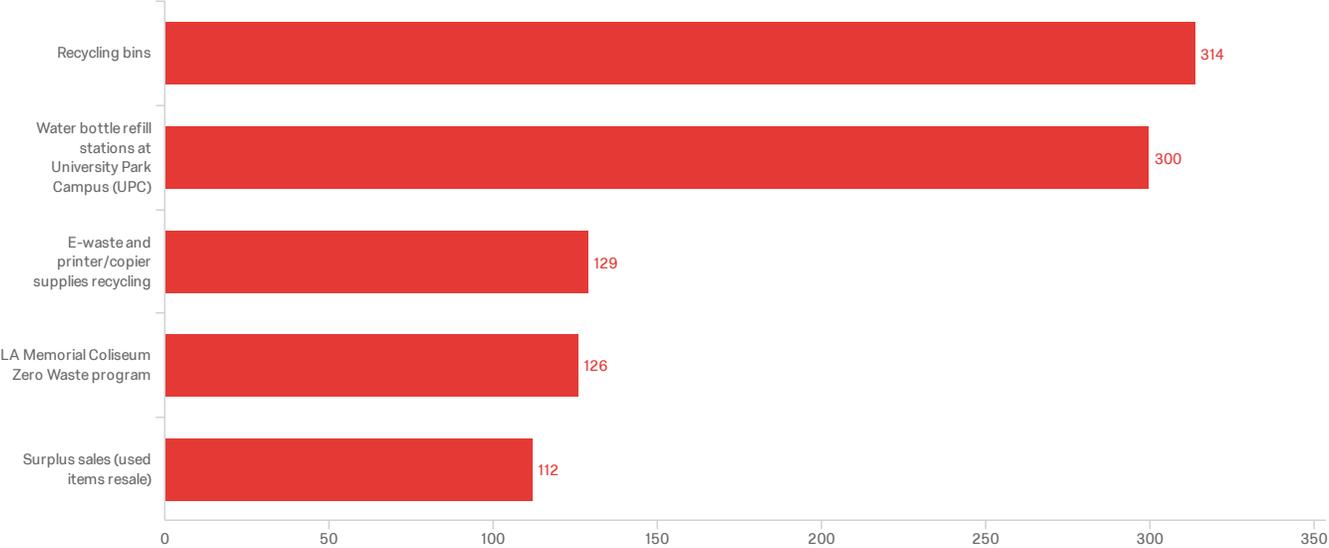


Do you agree with the following statement: "I know how to participate in efforts to advance sustainability at USC?" (3 of 11)



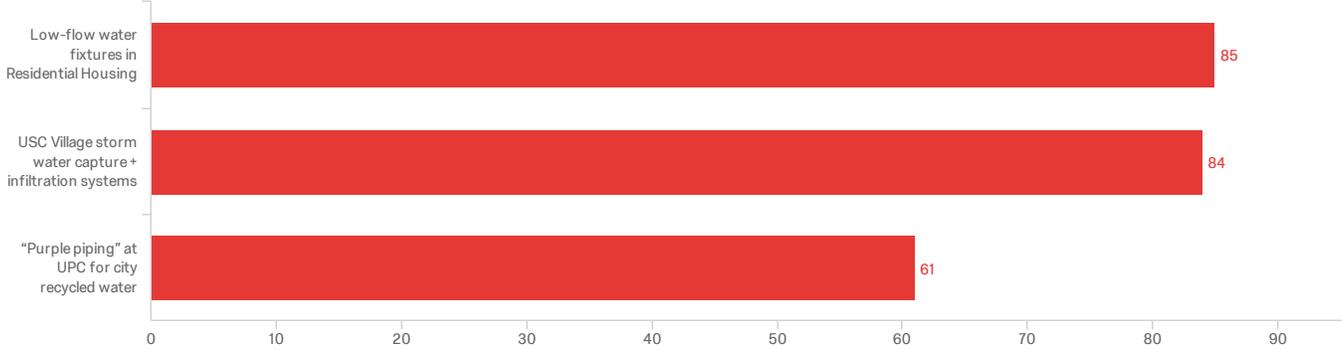
Which of the following waste diversion initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware

of? (4.1 out of 11)



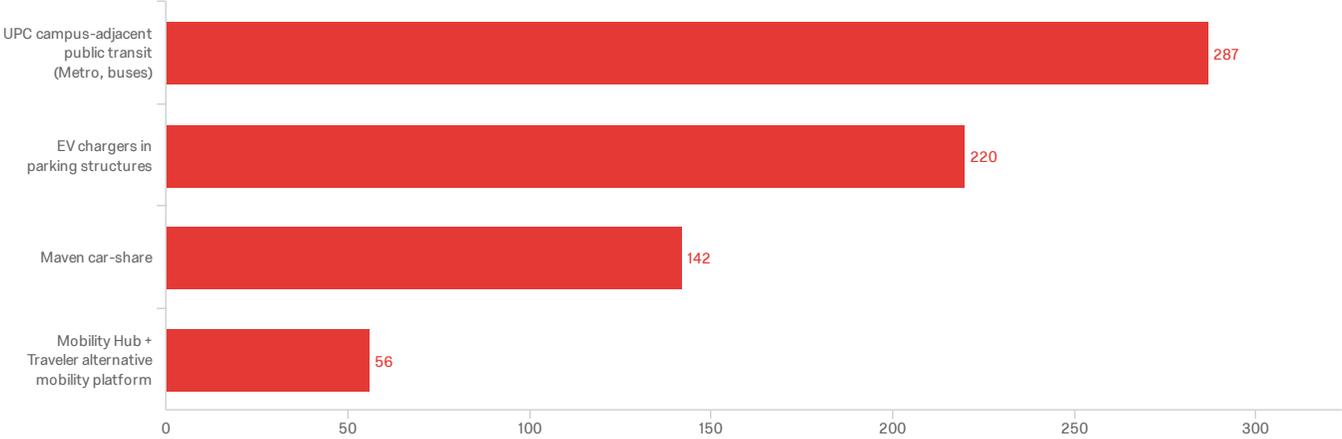
Which of the following water conservation initiatives currently in place at USC are you

aware of? (4.2 out of 11)



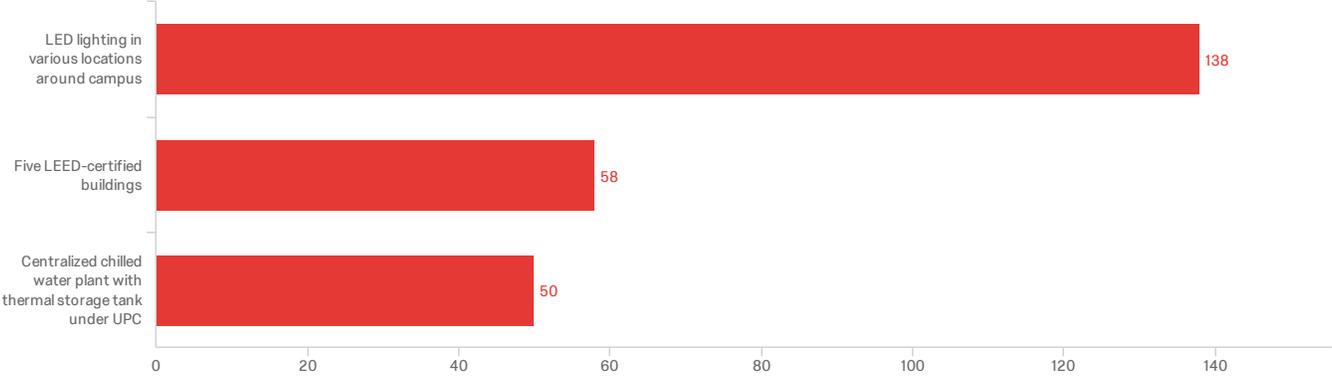
Which of the following transportation initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware

of? (4.3 out of 11)



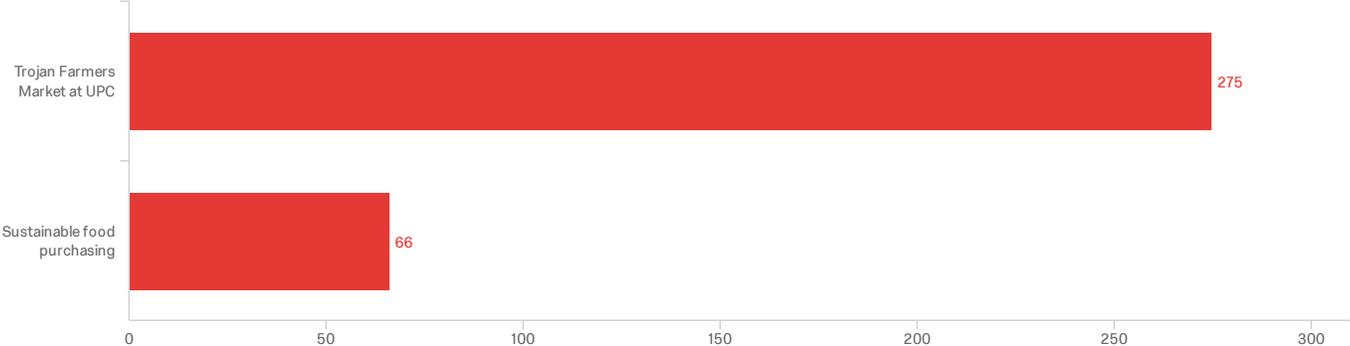
Which of the following energy conservation initiatives currently in place at USC are you

aware of? (4.4 out of 11)



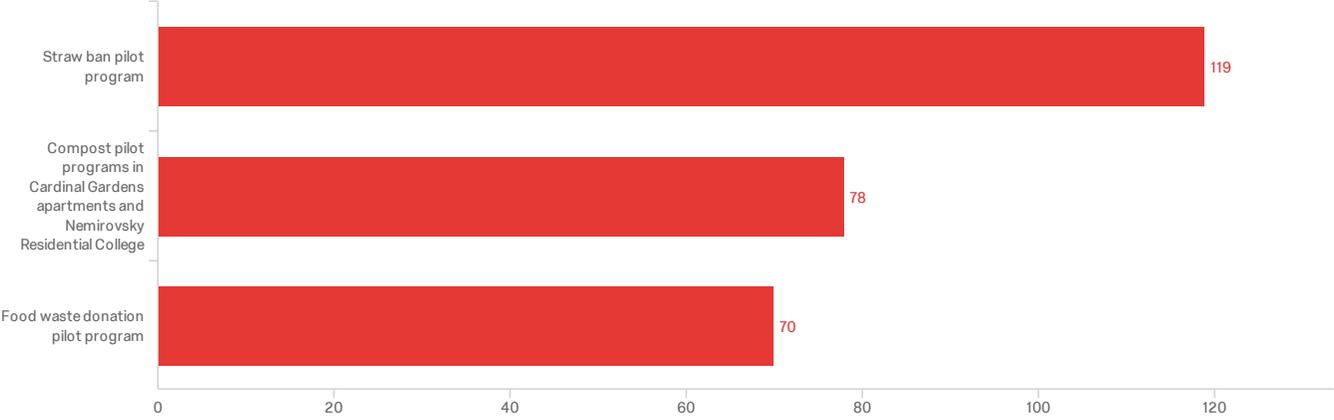
Which of the following purchasing initiatives currently in place at USC are you aware of?

(4.5 out of 11)

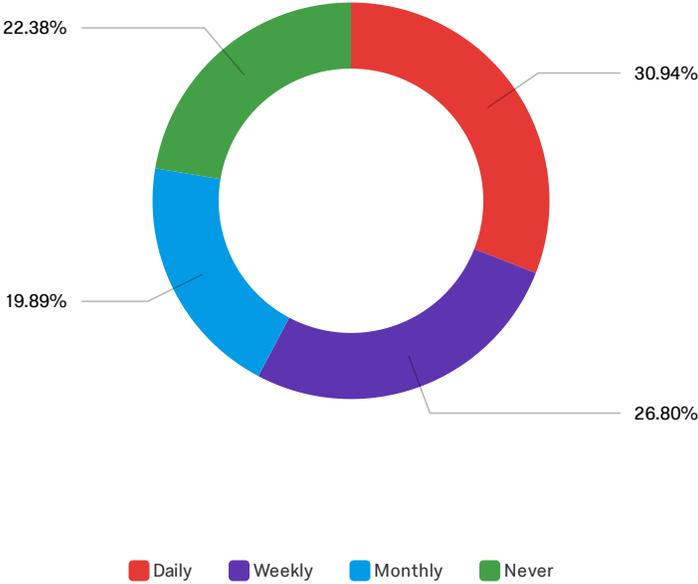


Which of the following residential dining and housing initiatives currently in place at USC

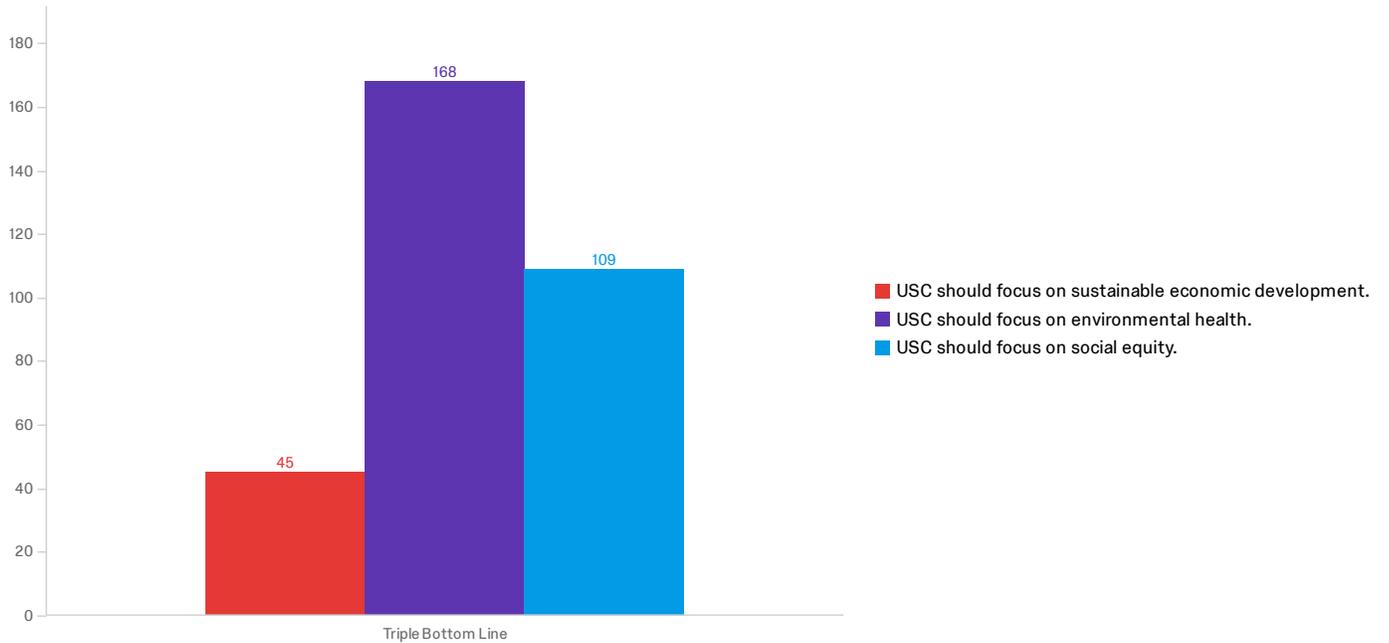
are you aware of? (4.6 out of 11)



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

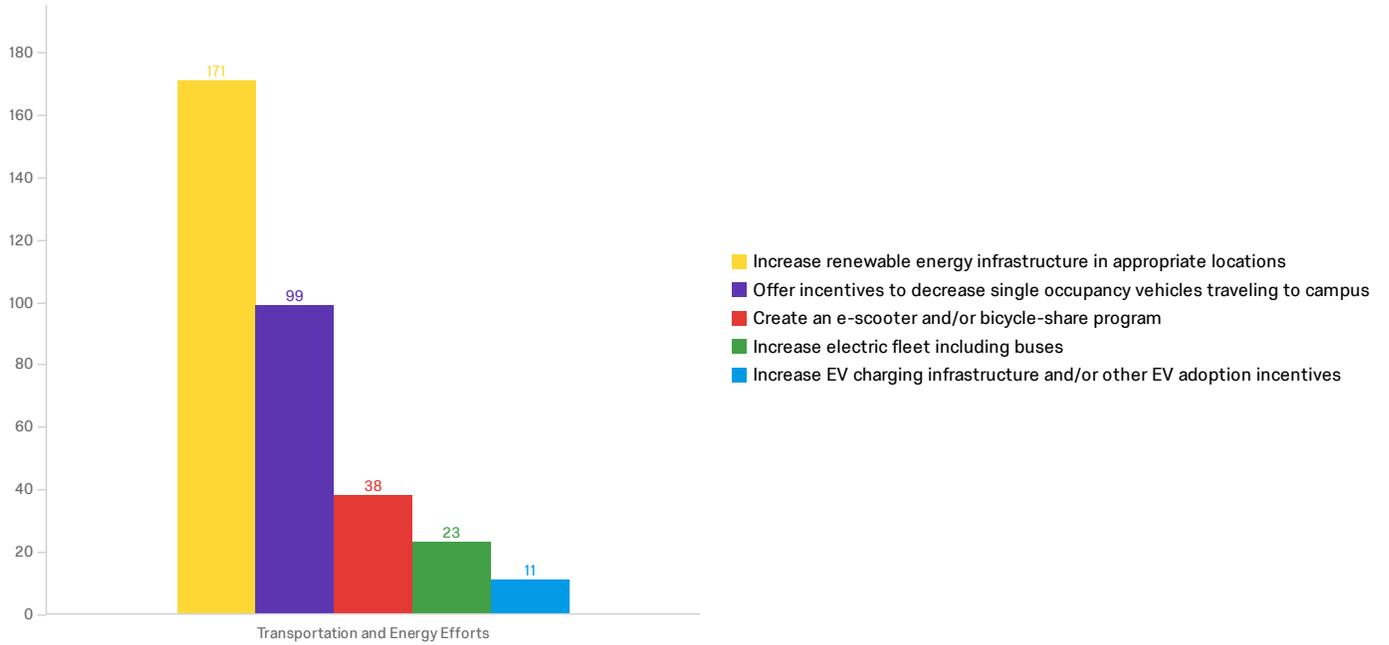


Sustainability is commonly referred to as having a triple bottom line: economic development, environmental health, and social (including intergenerational) equity. Rank in preference the following statements (drag and drop) (6 of 11)



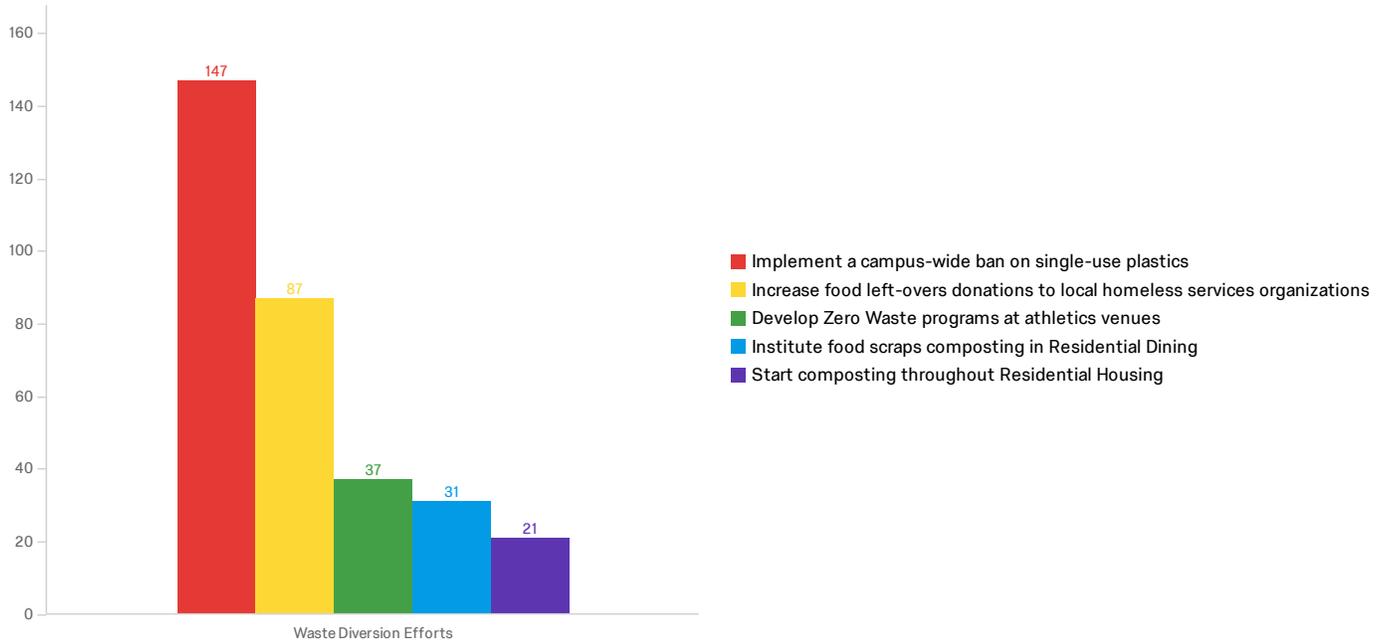
Which of these potential sustainable transportation and energy efforts would work well at USC? (rank by dragging and dropping) (7 of 11)

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



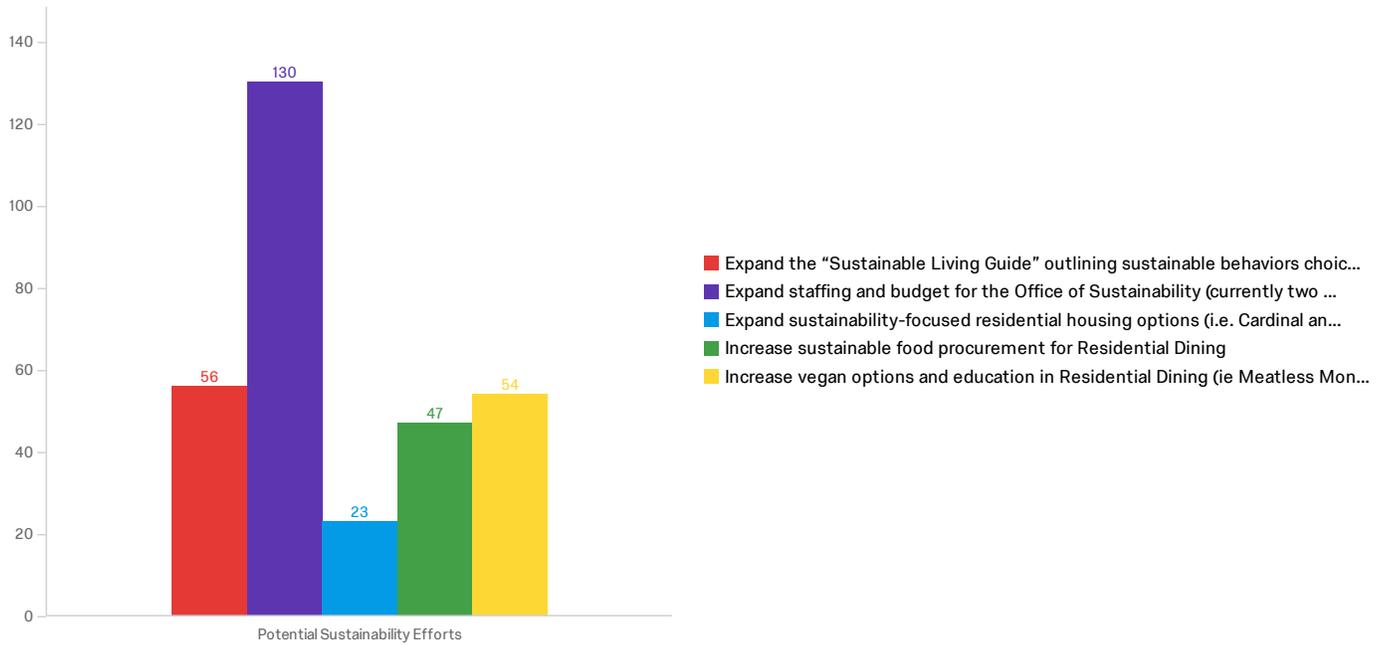
Which of these potential waste diversion efforts would work well at USC? (rank by dragging and dropping) (8 of 11)

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

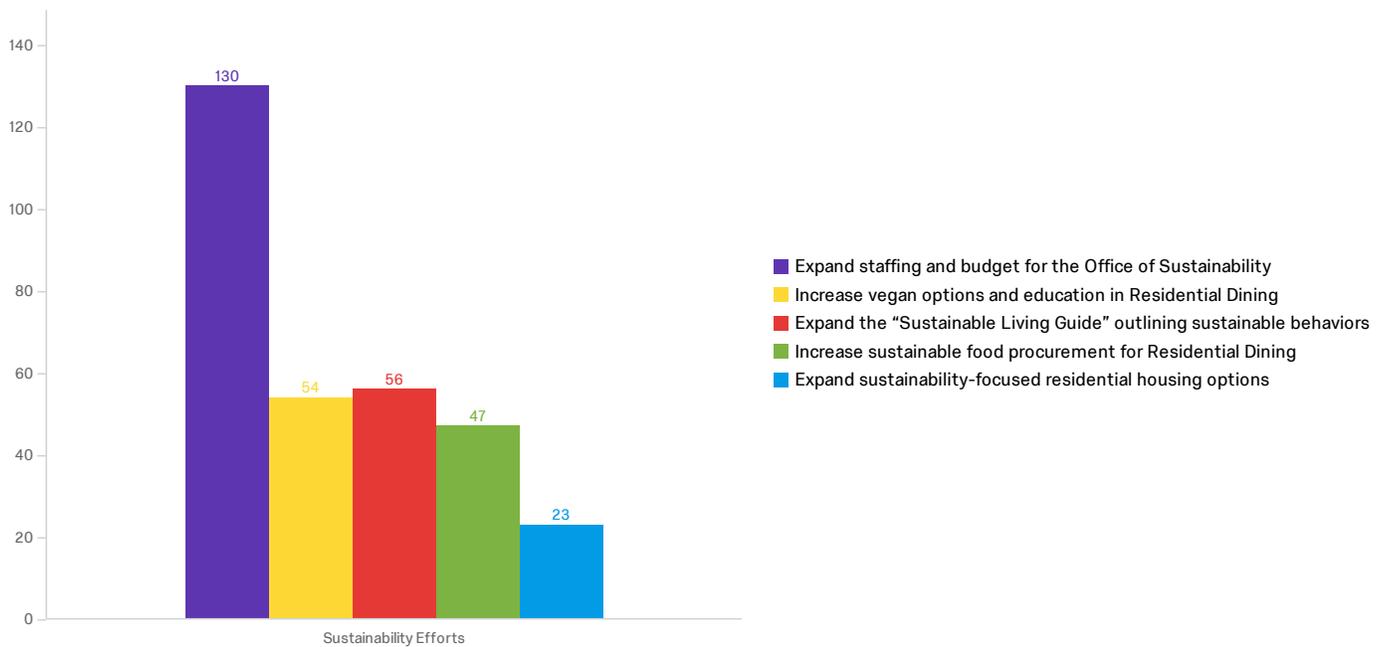


Which of these potential sustainability efforts would work well at USC? (rank by dragging

and dropping) (10 of 11)



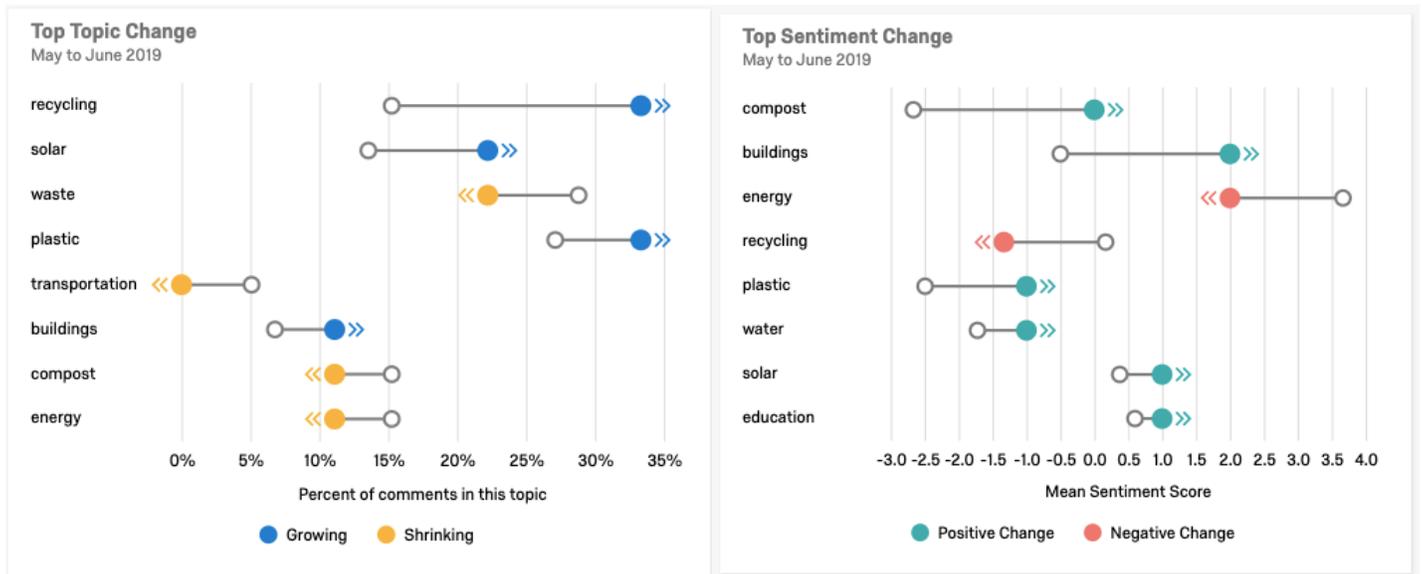
Respondents prioritized sustainability efforts at USC in the following order:



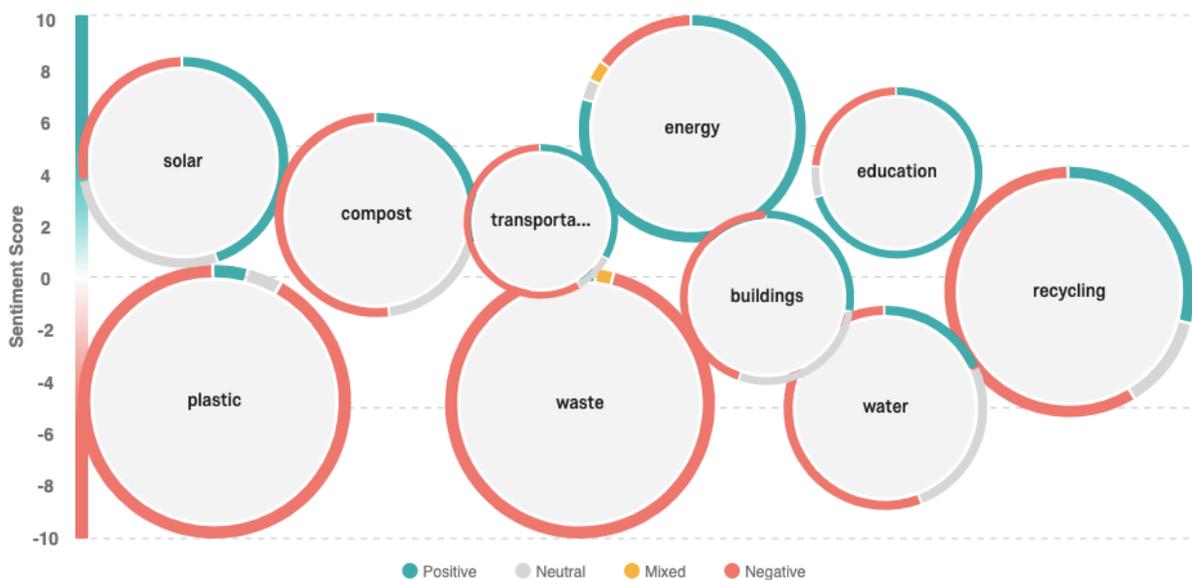
## 2028 Survey Results: Question 11 Analysis – July 2, 2019

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

364 Survey Responses	
Key Word	Count
Waste	47
Plastic	46
Recycling	41
Energy	34
Solar	29
Compost	27
Water	26
Buildings	18
Education	17
Transportation	12



### All Topics





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

#### 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.

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 an 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/uber 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.

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

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

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).

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

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

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.

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

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)

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

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

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.

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, RA's 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

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

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 made 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.

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.

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

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!!!!

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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.

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 it's footprint than pursue low-impact, highly-inconvenient token changes on campus

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

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.

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 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.

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

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.

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!

**End of Report**