

2021 Sustainable Nebraska Report



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Vision, Mission, and Background

Vision

Grow Nebraska

Mission

Effective and efficient state government through environmental stewardship.

Background

Administrative Services provides shared services support to our peer agencies for the business processes that support state government. Through a strategic focus on sustainability our department can improve the environmental impact of state government operations across the enterprise, while also saving money for taxpayers.

Director's Message

Last year under Governor Ricketts' leadership, the State of Nebraska applied new focus towards environmental stewardship. The result of this was the State's first ever sustainability strategy. This strategy focused on four main areas to improve environmental sustainability for our customers in Nebraska, across the United States, and around the world:

- Transportation
- State Buildings
- Waste Reduction
- Procurement

The State has worked to utilize technology, innovation, and industry best practices to both maximize sustainability and operational efforts in these four areas. Over the last year, we've seen great successes resulting from these efforts, which you'll see in the following pages.

The Department of Administrative Services is looking forward to continuing to implement this strategy that will contribute to the State's mission of creating opportunity through more effective, more efficient, and customer-focused state government. We look forward to seeing how our sustainability efforts can continue to improve and make an impact well into the future.

Sincerely,



Jason Jackson, Director



Program 1: Transportation

Department of Administrative Services - Transportation Services Bureau will continue to leverage renewable fuels across the breadth of fleet operations.

- **GOAL** | 90% or more of the State vehicle fleet can run on E15 fuel.
- **GOAL** | Support innovation and experiments in fuels with higher ethanol concentration.
- **RESULTS** | 100% of the State's vehicle fleet can run on E15 fuel, with E15 being the standard fuel for the State's vehicle fleet. In March of this year, the State successfully completed a fuel concentration study in partnership with the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. This study found that E30 may be a viable fuel option for vehicles that are not rated for E30, which brings us one step closer to reducing fossil fuel usage long-term!

Program 2: State Buildings

Department of Administrative Services - Building Division will adopt building and land use practices that minimize the use of natural resources and reduce energy consumption. The Task Force for Building Renewal will continue to focus on upgrading existing facility infrastructure with more efficient and sustainable systems.

- **GOAL** | Install smart irrigation systems to reduce water consumption state-wide.
- **GOAL** | Net reduction in energy usage.
- **RESULTS** | Three of the largest buildings owned by the State of Nebraska (the First Nebraska Administrative Building, Central State Office Building, and Nebraska State Office Building) had a reduction in electricity usage in Fiscal Year 2020-21 compared to the previous fiscal year, totaling a savings of 309,003.88 Kh.

Program 3: Waste Reduction

To reduce landfill waste, the State of Nebraska provides convenient opportunities to recycle and properly dispose of products, while educating on the benefits of creatively reusing and reducing the amount and type of products consumed. Whenever possible, waste is diverted from the landfill through recycling, reduction, and reuse. Department of Administrative Services - Materiel Division's Recycling and Excess Property programs are both well positioned to contribute to these objectives.

- **GOAL** | Provide access for recycling in all state-owned buildings, ensuring that recycling sites are strategically placed at optimal locations around State buildings and focusing primarily on State office buildings as those produce the most recyclable waste.
- **GOAL** | Include tracking requirements in future recycling and waste contracts to ensure reliable data on waste reduction efforts.
- **RESULTS** | This year, the Department of Administrative Services released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for new recycling services for state-owned and leased buildings. It is anticipated that this RFP will produce a contract that will result in operational efficiencies, more opportunities for teammates to recycle, and thorough tracking of recycling efforts.

Program 4: Procurement

Department of Administrative Services - Materiel Division serves as procurement experts and the central point of contact for procurement operations. Procurement can help the State meet its sustainability goals by purchasing green products and leveraging domestic suppliers.

- **GOAL** | The State will purchase green products when the cost is the same or less than non-green products.
- **GOAL** | Increase the amount of procured materials that are produced in the United States.
- **RESULTS** | The State has purchased at least \$735,328.14 of green products since July 1, 2020. Additionally, over 5,000 articles of the State's surplus property have been diverted from the landfill by being reused or recycled by state agencies or members of the public.