



Mapping Our "What"

Jan 17 - Energy

Jan 24 - Water

Jan 31 - Transportation

Feb 7 - Materials & Waste

Feb 14 - Economic
Opportunity

Feb 21 - Housing

Feb 28 - Health & Wellness

Process Goals:

- Cultivate a shared sense of direction for each indicator with a 3-5 year lens.
- Identify a **what** for each

Experiential Goal:

Imbue participants with a shared sense of ownership for directing the work.



In 3 years, with regard to **MATERIALS & WASTE**

we agree to

- Educate campus on sustainable procurement
- Provide clear, consistent communication/ education for students, faculty & staff on campus with regard to "Where it came from? Where is it going?" (waste, recycling & composting)
- Increase upstream waste reduction efforts (less plastic, single-use utensils, etc. en route to plastic elimination)
- Increase downstream waste reduction efforts (waste diversion, composting)
- Explore/implement localization of food options on campus
- Increase education & consciousness on how to relate sustainably with the local ecology to prevent over-utilization
- Unify of social forces working in this arena





The CURRENT REALITY for this work

Strengths

- Recycling on campus (paper, cardboard, containers, docushred, Ewaste, Lights, sheet metal, hazardous waste)
- FreeStore + DDD
- Trayless dining
- Motivated staff, students, youth
- Existing organics recycling program
- Food Recovery Network Chapter
- Bucky's Pantry
- Surplus inventory management
- Sustainable procurement guidelines
- Green to-go containers
- new student give away - sus office
- reduce # of pizza boxes
- BSU mission/ vision/values aligned with work

Weaknesses

- \$\$\$ + staff
- Education about what goes where
- Student engagement - hard to reach people trying to be mindful of paper
- Every community is different with recycling
- COVID 📈 expectations of single use
- fluid expectations: constantly changing info, lots of waste, every communities rules are different with recycling
- Limits who can access BSU based on income
- We're so rural (ex: waste solutions)
- Aramark: turnover, contracts
- Amount of autonomy available to make solutions; (ex: state purchasing guidelines)
- plastics = easy access diminishes collective will
- recycling as the solution prevents upstream solutions

Opportunities

- Potential Partners
 - Beltrami County
 - City of Bemidji
 - to amplify Local:
 - Indigenous Environmental Network
 - Table for 7
 - Harmony
 - Just Dandy
 - grassroots social forces; Mikinaako-ziibi treaty camp
 - BareCloth
 - Buy Nothing Bemidji
 - Farmer's Markets
 - Thrift Stores
 - Habitat ReSTORE
 - Shifting Gears
 - Bemidji Food Shelf:
 - underutilized greenhouse
- ECO ATM: cash for recyclables
- FreeCycle
- Other universities
- organics recycling solution could potentially move to campus?

Consequences of our Success

- Too much recycling vs waste reduction/ upstream vs. down stream
- Be mindful to not to ask too much of any individual organization
- Project management, need time & skills to continue
- Lack of used goods- less accessible
- Perception - lack of understanding
- Too many changes can result in disengagement
- Celebrate individual success
- A lot of consistent energy toward behavior change, ppl come to BSU from all over
- Manage pushback towards shift→
 - *what's a reasonable price when procuring locally?*
- rise in values = gentrification
- jobs would shift (ex: trash management→ compost management)