

## UofL Sustainability Council Report

Kelly Green

The UofL Sustainability Council held their meeting via teams on January 28, 2026. I have provided a summary of the minutes. Links are provided to view the full report if you would like to learn more. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

### UofL Sustainability Council

**Meeting Date:** January 28, 2026

The Council opened with member sustainability goals for 2026, emphasizing waste reduction, composting, using fewer disposables, supporting local businesses, native-plant landscaping, and relying less on driving. [\[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil | PDF\]](#)

**Operations:** Winter weather demanded extensive snow and ice management, with concerns about energy loads and facility issues. Major energy-efficiency upgrades produced significant results: a **40% reduction in Energy Usage Intensity** and nearly **\$1M in cost avoidance**, achieved through HVAC improvements, LED lighting, insulation, and controls upgrades. Additional electrical and lighting projects are underway, and a solar grant proposal is being prepared. [\[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil | PDF\]](#)

**Education & Research:** The committee is working to revive the **Master's in Sustainability**, needing administrative support and funding clarity. A faculty research survey will be developed to pursue sustainability-focused research funding. [\[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil | PDF\]](#)

**Engagement:** The Council is launching the **Green Office Certification & Sustainability Ambassador** pilot program and preparing for **Ecolympics 2026** (including an e-waste drive). Monthly EcoReps workshops continue. [\[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil | PDF\]](#)

**Athletics & Dining:** Athletics reported strong aluminum recycling and announced a **\$2M LED stadium lighting upgrade**. Dining is reviewing OZZI reusable container data and planning a sustainable meal-prep event. [\[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil | PDF\]](#)

**Bottled Water Phase-Out:** New bottle-filling stations have been installed with more planned; a reuse-incentive grant was not awarded. The Council is watching for potential policy impacts under the new Provost. [\[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil | PDF\]](#)

**Transportation:** The **Sustainable Transportation Committee** will be formally reinstated, prioritizing free TARC access and car-free commuting options. [[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil](#)] [PDF](#)]

**Other Announcements:** Pet Resource Day on Feb. 12, Climate Chaos book event, Sustainability Roundtable sessions, and next meeting on Feb. 25. [[1-28-26 Mi...ityCouncil](#)] [PDF](#)]