

CAPITAL PROJECTS SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE

Five Pillars of Sustainability Inform SRJC's Commitment to its goal: Zero Net Energy

Measure H incorporates a number of initiatives to lower the District's dependence on energy and conserve water



Quinn Central Plant

SUSTAINABLE SRJC

During the April 2022 Board of Trustees meeting, SRJC's Sustainability and Energy Programs Manager David Liebman gave a presentation on the sustainability projects currently underway, including a brief video of the Microgrid Project. "This film is anti-climatic," Mr. Liebman said, "as nothing happens."

Nothing happens is very good news indeed, as Mr. Liebman's footage demonstrated the blink-of-an-eye it

—continued on page 2



Reclaimed Water Tower — 2



50-Meter Pool — 3



Shone Farm — 4

- April 18-21 — Fourth Annual World Languages Fair (remote)
- April 21 - Climate Action Night (remote)
- April 22 - Earth Day Street Mural (in person)
- April 29 - We the Future Social Justice Conference (remote)

*A Look Ahead:
SRJC Petaluma campus*



Zero Net Energy



Zero Net Non-Potable Water



Carbon Neutral Operations



Zero Waste



Built Environment

Sustainable SRJC—continued from page 1

would take for SRJC to switch over from PG&E to the district’s new Microgrid System in case of an emergency power outage. “The tests showed that it takes less than 100 milliseconds to switch over,” Mr. Liebman said, “faster than hitting a button on your keyboard.”

The award-winning SRJC Microgrid Project, funded by \$5 million grant from the California Energy Commission, is just one of many new sustainability projects incorporating a number of initiatives recommended in the Facilities Master Plan to reduce the District’s dependence on energy and help conserve water.

Another important project, funded by Measure H, is the new Quinn Central Plant Project. The new plant will provide high efficiency heating and cooling to Bailey Hall, Maggini Hall, the future Lindley Center for STEM Education, Barnett Hall, Tauzer Gymnasium and the new 50-meter pool.

“Using specialized chillers and an electric boiler, the Central Plant will allow the college to use electricity to heat buildings and pools, reducing natural gas usage to only the coldest of day, Said Mr. Liebman, adding that new battery storage provides an option to use excess solar electricity on weekends to heat the pool for the week’s use, too.

The reclaimed water tank at the plant will pump and catch fifty thousand gallons of water a day for irrigation use, toilet flushing, and process cooling, and serve as emergency fire water with a fire hose connection and emergency water supply for resilience. According to Mr. Liebman, an estimated six to seven million gallons of water a year will be reclaimed and help the college reduce its potable water consumption by close to twenty percent.

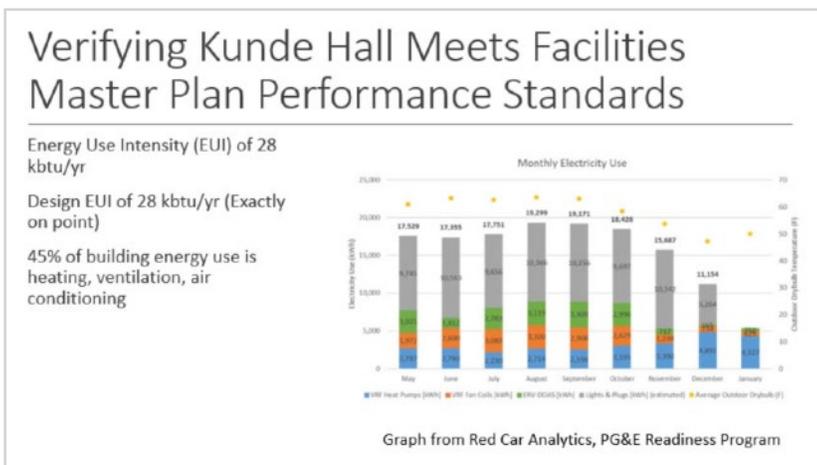


and analysis in order to use best practices in building management to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“Our data collected on Kunde Hall verifies that this newer building is meeting performance standards in our Facilities Master Plan,” Mr. Liebman said.

Other Sustainability Projects include:

- The Photovoltaic Project, which is reducing the District’s greenhouse gas emissions by 7% and saving over \$800,000 in annual utility costs.
- LED Lighting Upgrades at the Santa Rosa and Petaluma campuses to improve light quality and classroom environments. The expected annual utility savings for this project will be \$300,000.
- Water Bottle Refilling Stations (for a list of where the stations are located, please see page 3).
- EV Charge Stations across the Petaluma and Santa Rosa Campuses, the Public Safety Training Center and Shone Farm.



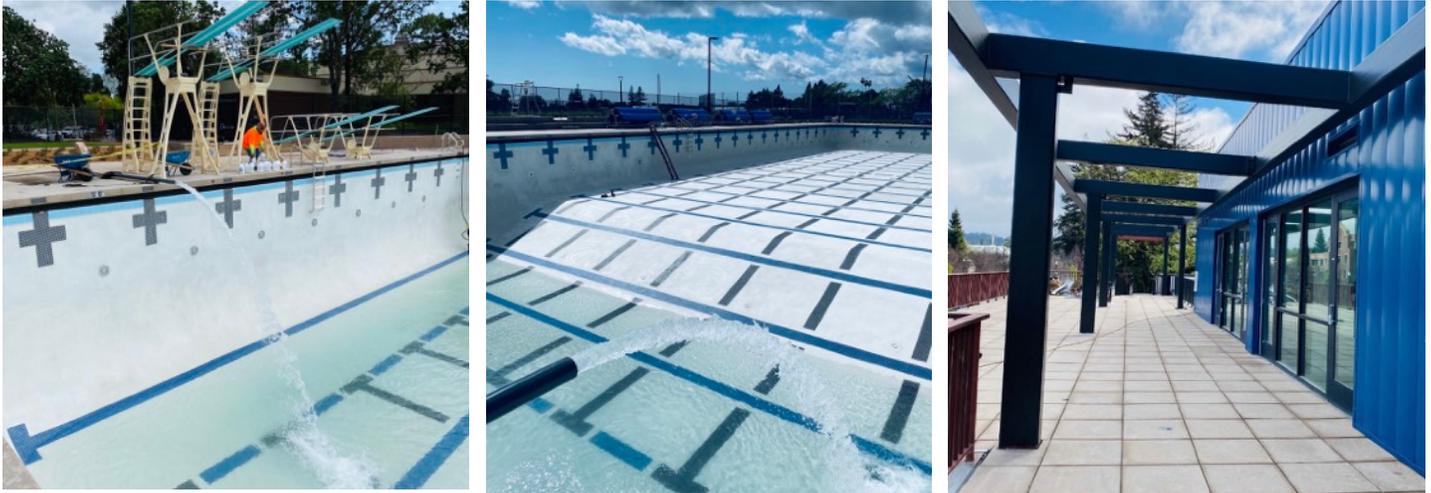
The Sub-metering Project, which provides important information on energy consumption and leak detection, is critical for data collection

The SRJC 2016 Facilities Master Plan’s Ten Guiding Principles of Sustainability

1. Use an Integrated Approach to Building Design, Construction and Operations
2. Implement an Ecological Site Design Methodology
3. Reduce Fossil Fuel Reliance and Related Energy Costs
4. Manage Water Carefully
5. Source Materials and Services Responsibly
6. Optimize Occupant Comfort, Health and Well Being
7. Reduce Waste
8. Use the Built Environment as a Teaching Tool
9. Facilitate Sustainable Management of Campus Operations
10. Showcase Sustainability Leadership

Kinesiology, Athletics and Dance, Phase 2

The new 50-meter pool fills with water and Bailey Field House's finishing touches are underway



The Kinesiology, Athletics and Dance Project, Phase 2 is nearly complete! Photos of the new 50-meter pool being filled with water were taken earlier this month; with the bulkhead, a structure used in pool sports scheduled for delivery and installation on April 21. Finishing touches are now underway at the Field House. This year's commencement will take place on Bailey Field. As with all Measure H projects, sustainable features are incorporated into the design and building, everything designed to work as efficiently as possible in order to reduce our carbon footprint.

Water Bottle Refilling Stations to Reduce Unhealthy and Unsustainable Dependence of Plastics

As part of the sustainability work funded through Measure H, SRJC has installed water bottle refilling stations throughout the District. The water bottle refilling stations are providing students, faculty, and staff with access to clean filtered water and reducing associated health risks of drinking unfiltered water. The stations are also reducing plastic water bottle usage and landfill waste. Locations of the refilling stations are listed below:

Santa Rosa Campus:

Baker Hall (Outside - Center Circle)
 Bertolini Student Center (North Ground Floor Entrance)
 Lounibos Hall (Welding Shop)
 Pioneer Hall (Outside, Book Store Entrance)
 Quinn Swim Center (Indoor Pool & Outdoor Pool)
 Tauzer Gym (Inside, West Side Entrance)
 Analay Village
 Call Child Development Center (Outside Courtyard)
 Plover Hall North Wing
 Race Hall Second Floor
 Forsyth Hall

Petaluma Campus:

Petaluma Building 1200 South Side, Outside

Public Safety Training Center:

PSTC Building 1100 South Side, Outside



Did You Know?

- 17 million barrels of oil are used annually for U.S. plastic bottles.
- Americans use 89 billion plastic water bottles a year; only one in six is recycled.
- Recycled plastic is degraded during the recycling process but only usable for composite materials, such as fleece and plastic composite wood. It is not removed from the waste stream, just delayed.

Visit <https://sustainability.santarosa.edu/waste> to learn more facts and ways you can reduce and reuse.

The SRJC Student Housing Project

Metal studs and steel framing better than an erector set



The new Student Housing building, located at the southeast corner of Elliott Avenue and Armory Drive, will model sustainability in both the built environment and through operational efficiencies while creating a vibrant center of student life on campus. The new 95,218 square foot building will open in Fall 2023 and provide safe, new, below market rate accommodations for approximately 352 students.

The New Greenhouse at Shone Farm

The SRJC Sustainable Agriculture Program looks forward to utilizing the new facility



Measure H Funds, supported by state grants, continues work on projects designed to enhance the learning environment for students and faculty. The new greenhouse currently under construction at Shone Farm is funded through a Strong Workforce Program. Shone Farm, located between Forestville and Windsor, is a 365-acre outdoor learning laboratory and one of the largest agricultural sites in the California Community Colleges system. Students come from all over the country to take classes to help launch their careers or advance in their fields. Students are taught commercial production techniques, preparing them for the workplace or to transfer to a four-year university. The Sustainable Agriculture Program students are involved in the planting, harvesting, packing, pricing, and selling of fruits and vegetables to several high-end markets and restaurants, as well as providing produce to the SRJC Food Pantry.

**MEET THE SRJC CAPITAL PROJECTS TEAM:
Daniel Mendez-Cisneros, Project Engineer
(Harris & Associates)**

Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Daniel Mendez-Cisneros came to the United States when he was two years old with his parents and older sister Fabiola. “We lived in the inner city of Los Angeles,” Daniel said. “Right in the middle. Two blocks north of what we call the Ghetto, and several blocks to the south of Beverly Hills.”

Daniel and his family lived in a modest home where just on the corner of the next block he and his friends could walk past a ten-bedroom mansion with crystal doorknobs, a house for servant, and a garage built to hold four or five limousines. Homes within a one-mile radius included those of Marvin Gaye and television journalist and sportscaster Bryant Gumbel.

“Back in the day, the area was called Sugar Hill,” Daniel said, referring to a district in West Adams rechristened Sugar Hill in a homage to the famed neighborhood in Harlem.

Sugar Hill has a rich history. Also known as Black Beverly Hills, Oscar-winning actress Hattie McDaniel played a lead role in building and creating a rich, vibrant community of artists, musicians, actors and architects. Fully integrated in the 1940’s, a group of eight white residents sued to have their Black neighbors (approximately 57 families) evicted. The plaintiffs lost the “Sugar Hill” case in 1945. The decision helped pave the way for the 1968 Fair Housing Act.

Unfortunately, racist practices prevailed in 1963 when the Santa Monica freeway bisected the neighborhood and destroyed many of the mansions owned by African Americans.

Gentrification is happening in the area now referred to as Sugar Hill Historic District, West Adams, and Daniel welcomes the revitalization of this important area. While it was not easy being the child of immigrants in a city of such economic injustice, Daniel loves Los Angeles.

“I saw both sides of the economic spectrum and could travel the world in that city. If you slow down a bit, you get to appreciate everything around you.”

It took a while for Daniel to slow down. While he is often hesitant to share this story, he thinks how he received his education is an important one that might benefit others. “I didn’t finish high school,” Daniel said, adding that he ran with a group of friends who didn’t see the value. “My parents were working all the time, and it was up to me. I didn’t get a basic education. Still, I always knew in my heart, that I wanted more.”

Daniel borrowed books to study for the GED and enrolled in a local community college trade school after realizing that he didn’t need a high school diploma to take other courses.

He quickly took advantage of the college offerings and made up for lost time by taking classes during the winter and summer semesters. He soon realized that he had earned multiple degrees and certificates, so began focusing his energy on transferring to a university. While at Los Angeles Trade Tech, he studied carpentry and architecture.



He had a professor of architecture, Marcela Olivia, who told her students that no outsider could understand how they live better than they did. She provided them with the tools and confidence they needed to build their community the way *they* needed it to be, telling them to go out there in the world and make it better.

Daniel was eager to build the biggest toolbox he could, and so he started to attend all the sister community colleges and put his own portfolio together. While he first thought he would become an architect, he had a change of heart, partially due to the amount of student debt required while attending an architectural school.

“Starting wages for construction management is better than for architects,” Daniel said, adding that he also realized that he enjoyed studying the practical sides of construction. He landed a job with a construction management firm where he gained experience and saved money to transfer to a university. He then had to make the hard decision to quit this job that he loved in order to focus on getting his degree as fast as he could.

Daniel transferred to California State University Northridge where he received scholarship awards from the AIMS² Program and the Construction Management Association of America.

“It was a small program, but a good one,” said Daniel. “The program consisted of electrical, structural, mechanical, hydrology, and transportation engineering, with a strong emphasis on construction law. He earned his BS in Construction Management, making him the first of his family to graduate from college.

Daniel joined the SRJC Capital Projects Team in 2017, and has provided construction management assistance for projects at all five campuses. Past projects include the Burbank Theater, Lark Temp Portables, the Mahoney and Doyle Library Redesign, the Dentist Lab Refresh, the Food Pantry Project, and many more. His current project is the new Lindley Center for STEM Education.

Daniel moved to Santa Rosa in 2017, and quickly fell in love with both the city and Sonoma County as a whole. Walking through the SRJC campuses, Daniel sees not only their natural beauty, but the love and hard work that it takes to make each of the campuses the treasures they are.

Daniel’s artistic eye is often put to good use in taking photographs and documenting progress of the various projects. “I’m always chasing one good picture,” he said.

Daniel also enjoys visiting museums and listening to music, and once had aspirations of playing the drums.

“I prioritize work over hobbies,” he said, adding that some of the musicians he enjoys are James Brown, Donald Byrd, and Roy Ayers.

Daniel loves his work, and finds SRJC a wonderful place to be. “The college’s values of inclusivity and equity is so important,” he said, “and I enjoy working around so much talent.”

Daniel believe’s giving back is important and volunteers. He has used his carpentry skills volunteering with Habitat for Humanity.

**4TH ANNUAL
SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE**

Climate Action Night

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 5:30 PM

Student groups from Sonoma County high schools, Santa Rosa Junior College, and Sonoma State will present on California State Assembly or Senate bills, local county and city policies, and other climate change movements, actions and petitions.

Presentations will be approximately 5 minutes each, and the event will have live Spanish translation.

Come learn how you can play a role in creating systemic change!

To learn more about Climate Action Night and to register for this online event, please visit www.climateactionnight.com



SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE
**EARTH DAY
STREET
MURAL**
04-22-22
9AM - 12PM

**EVERYONE
WELCOME!
FREE FOOD,
MUSIC, & FUN.**

VISIT PROJECT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.
STUDENTLIFE.SANTAROSA.EDU/STREET-MURAL

Weaving Sustainability into the Curriculum

Sustainability is taught across multiple academic departments. SRJC offers designated courses with an explicit focus on sustainability, as well as classes which include sustainability topics within the coursework. Courses that include sustainability address human impact & responsibility in the following areas: environmental stewardship, economic vitality, and social equity.

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs is a fundamental tenet of sustainability education.

CAPITAL PROJECTS SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE
Building on a Legacy of Excellence

SAVE THE DATE!

Kinesiology, Dance and Athletics Project
Ribbon Cutting
& Pool Dedication Ceremony

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Approved by voters in 2014, Measure H is valued at \$410 million and the largest districtwide facilities upgrade initiative in the Sonoma County Junior College District's 100-year+ history. Thank you, Sonoma County, for your ongoing support of our students.