OUR SUSTAINABILITY VALUES

Miller Hull has been at the forefront of exploring innovative site strategies and advanced building systems since our firm was founded. Our perspective on architecture deals intimately with the human impact and context of the buildings we design. We continually strive for innovative, sustainable design approaches and technologies that push building performance to the highest level because we are responsible stewards for our environment.

As a profession, our responsibilities to our community and to the environment are great. We are entrusted with and accountable for both human and environmental health with our work. At Miller Hull, we take efforts to employ the latest scientifically-verified and relevant data that continues to evolve and influence our field. We also follow the Precautionary Principle. Together with our clients, we work for a shared vision to create architecture that is environmentally responsible, equitable and resilient.

The goals, objectives and strategies outlined in this document embody our firm’s values and represent our commitment to be rigorous with our high performing buildings. Through our design work and in our office operations, we work to be accountable for and continually improve upon each goal.

The Sustainability Action Plan and the strategies outlined within it work in concert with goals of staff training, business alignment and community engagement; those specific policies are enumerated through other Miller Hull operations groups and so are not included here.
GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

DESIGN WORK:

Goal A: 100% Regenerative Design by 2030

Objective A.1: Target Net Positive Energy
- Achieve Architecture 2030 Challenge Targets
- Use energy modeling to support design decisions
- Implement daylight optimization studies on every project
- Implement envelope optimization studies on every project

Objective A.2: Target Carbon Sequestration
- Achieve Architecture 2030 Challenge for Embodied Carbon Targets
- Encourage existing building alternatives
- Optimize design of structure, enclosure and finish systems
- Integrate decision making for operational and embodied carbon
- Request EPDs to encourage market transparency
- Maximize local sourcing of products and materials

Objective A.3: Target Net Positive Water (potable, gray and black water)
- Reduce demand for non-drinking water
- Incorporate water reuse strategies
- Manage rainwater to be a net benefit
- Manage stormwater to be a net benefit

Objective A.4: Design for a regenerative site
- Restore the ecological health of the site
- Bolster the ecosystem services provided by the site
- Design to sequester carbon in the landscape

Objective A.5: Design to achieve the LBC Materials Petal
- Vet all specified products for the most current version of the Living Building Challenge Red List compliance
- Specify wood as FSC certified or 100% salvaged/reclaimed
- Request material ingredient disclosure to encourage market transparency
- Identify materials with recycled content and/or local sourcing for final assembly
- Request GC partners implement a salvage assessment

Objective A.6: Prioritize Occupant Health
- Optimize indoor air quality to reduce pollutants and CO2
- Incorporate lighting design to support circadian rhythm
- Design to promote physical activity
- Incorporate Accessibility and Universal Design
Goal B: Ensure our design thinking supports our core values

Objective B.1: Think smarter, not just bigger
- Incorporate biomimetic strategies in our design and process work
- Design for resilience in at least 3 areas (e.g., building hardening, adaptability/flexibility, urban agriculture, community support)
- Have tools that address the perceived "costs" of sustainability

Objective B.2: Drive industry change through transparency
- Perform Post-occupancy evaluations for selected built projects to track occupant health, comfort, and the building’s energy performance
- Make our sustainability efforts transparent and publicly available
- Seek out speaking opportunities to address behavioral change within the profession

Objective B.3: Address the social and environmental justice impacts of our work
- Use King County’s Equity Impact Review Process on every project
- Provide opportunities for project teams (including Client) to address bias within the team and on the project
- Prioritize gender neutral facilities
- Include lactation rooms
**GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES**

**MILLER HULL OPERATIONS**

**Goal A: Zero Solid Waste by 2030**

*Objective A.1: Reduce printing by 10% every year*
- Reduce drawing set printing to single copy per office
- Eliminate business cards
- Track, measure and propose alternatives to other in-house printing

*Objective A.2: Reduce consumption-related waste*
- Provide reusable/compostable dishware for local vendor carry out
- Remove waste collection from individual desks to drive awareness and reduction of waste generation
- Communicate waste goals to catering (don’t provide any dishware)

**Goal B: Net Positive Water Operations by 2050**

*Objective B.1: Reduce flow and flush fixture use by 50% from UPC baseline*
- Replace or upgrade all flow fixtures with lower flow options (lav, shower, kitchen sink)
- Work with landlord to replace or upgrade flush and flow fixtures to lower flow options

*Objective B.2: Rainwater/condensate harvesting for water uses (both offices)*
- Establish and implement feasible non-potable measures
- Establish and encourage feasible potable measures
Goal C: Carbon Neutral Operations by 2050

Objective C.1: Reduce workforce gas-based commuting miles by 5% per person every year
- Establish employee carpooling program
- Increase incentives for non-combustion commuting
- Incentivize and invest in remote-work opportunities and technologies

Objective C.2: Reduce business travel combustion-based miles and offset with impactful efforts
- Aggressively budget the total business miles traveled by air
- Incentivize ways to reduce combustion-based business miles traveled
- Implement an offset program that is more impactful than purchased carbon offsets

Objective C.3: Achieve 2030 target of 30 EUI by reducing office energy usage by 10% every year
- Target 5% year over year reduction in equipment/appliance purchasing
- Ensure office space lighting is optimized for least use
- Adjust HVAC settings and seating arrangement to optimize for thermal comfort ‘zoning’ and energy reduction
- Work with landlord for a “deep green retrofit” at time of HVAC replacement (approximately 2025 for Seattle office)

Objective C.4: Reduce carbon footprint of food purchases by 5% every year
- TBD after conducting an inventory of current practices
- Ban pre-packaged beverages at lunch and learn

Objective C.5: Offset that which we cannot reduce
- Calculate our carbon footprint annually
- Purchase offsets that are impactful, not just economical
Goal D: Restorative Office Environment

Objective D.1: Comfortable workspace
- Survey employees bi-annually to assess thermal, acoustic and ergonomic comfort; implement change strategies at individual level
- Compete yearly (internally) to increase beauty/biophilia of offices
- Arrange individual workstations for maximum natural light
- Implement feedback system for open window opportunities

Objective D.2: Encourage a healthy lifestyle
- Promote stairs instead of elevators via accessibility, lighting and aesthetics
- Incentivize activity programs
- Provide several ‘active workstations’
- Provide workplace sleep support
- Provide healthy snack and meal options when food is provided by Miller Hull

Objective D.3: Bolster office culture
- Enhance and celebrate worker appreciation awards
- Improve social equity of operations
- Address social equity within the firm and create a business equity plan
- Promote volunteering of time and money
- Provide more learning opportunities for non-work sustainability

Objective D.4: Resiliency plan for workers
- Create and implement a resiliency plan for both offices
- Provide education for workers to bolster resiliency away from work

Objective D.5: Sustainable Purchasing Policy
- TBD after conducting an inventory of current practices