## SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

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A roadmap for meeting the goals of the AIA 2030 Commitment Ver 1.2 // 11.18.2021



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## For over 50 years, our focus at TruexCullins has been the making of beautiful buildings, public spaces, and interiors that have a strong sense of place and purpose.

We develop each project to be a reflection of its own place in the world, responding to each unique set of site conditions and environmental demands. This is true for all our recently completed projects in over a dozen US states and over a dozen countries abroad.

We work closely with our clients and demonstrate the benefits of sustainable design, delivering beautiful, high performing buildings that illustrate how sustainability enhances people's lives. Our approach is holistic, and we advocate an approach to energy conservation that considers broad design issues. In the end, we combine art and science to create spaces that are as timeless as they are sustainable.

Our commitment to environmentally responsive design is measured in part by our work on LEED-certified buildings and interiors, as well as our LEED Accredited Professionals, offering expertise in sustainable design, resource efficiency and green materials. To date, we have a total of 12 LEED certified or registered projects completed or in design. It is through holistic, integrated design that TruexCullins has earned a reputation for beautiful and high performance projects - across all our design studios in Workplace, Education, Resort, and Home; in architecture and interior design; and for projects of every size and scale - some of which are illustrated by the case studies on the following pages.

While our work is founded on the basic design qualities that have guided us for generations, we also readily acknowledge the unique challenges we face today. With greenhouse gas emissions from buildings driving global warming, we believe it is our responsibility to evolve our practice, in partnership with our clients, to meet this challenge.

TruexCullins has always exercised leadership in creating the built environment, with projects of lasting value and beauty. Now we step up to meet today's environmental demands with a determined and appropriate response.



#### **LEED Certified Projects**

- Anglo-American School of Sofia, LEED Gold Certified
- Champlain Investment Partners, LEED-CI Silver Certified
- Debevoise Hall, Vermont Law School, LEED Silver Certified
- Dudley H. Davis Student Center, University of Vermont, LEED Gold Certified
- Four Currier Place, LEED-CS Silver Certified
- Heritage Flight Aviation, LEED Gold Certified
- Hotel Jackson, LEED Certified
- Hotel Vermont, LEED Certified
- Multi-Purpose Events Center, University of Vermont, LEED Certification Pending
- Seventh Generation Headquarters, LEED-CI Gold Certification Pending
- US Border Patrol Station, Beecher Falls VT, LEED Gold Certified
- US Border Patrol Station, Swanton VT, LEED Silver Certified

#### Select Sustainable Design Awards

- Grand Award Demonstrating Engineering Excellence, American Council of Engineering Companies, ACEC Vermont, 2017 [Downtown Transit Center]
- Award of Merit, Best Small Project, ENR Engineering News-Record New England, Best Projects 2017 [Downtown Transit Center]
- Bulgarian Building of the Year Green Category, second place, Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce, 2012 [Anglo-American School of Sofia, Bulgaria]
- Merit Award for Excellence in Architecture Design, AIA Vermont, 2012 [Heritage Aviation]
- Hertzel N. Pasackow Architectural Excellence Award, Burlington Business Association, 2010 [Heritage Aviation]
- Best of the Best in Commercial Building Design & Construction, New Construction Merit Award, Efficiency Vermont, 2010 [Heritage Aviation]
- Best of the Best in Residential New Construction, Efficiency Vermont, 2012 [Private Residence, Calais, VT]
- Best of the Best in Vermont Energy Star Homes, Efficiency Vermont, 2010 [South Farm Homes, Hinesburg, VT]
- Best of the Best for Residential Construction, Efficiency Vermont, 2008, 2009 [South Farm Homes]

- Merit Award for Excellence in Planning, Design & Development, Plan New Hampshire, 2009 [Hanover South Block, Hanover, NH]
- Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Excellence Award, 2009 [Dudley H. Davis Student Center, University of Vermont]
- Energy Efficiency in the Commercial New Construction Market, Second Place, Efficiency Vermont, 2008 [Dudley H. Davis Student Center, UVM]
- Engineering Excellence, Grand Award, American Council of Engineering Companies of Vermont, 2008 [Dudley H. Davis Student Center, UVM]
- Excellence in Architecture Design, Award for Historic Renovation/Preservation, AIA Vermont, 2006 [Debevoise Hall, Vermont Law School]
- Excellence in Comprehensive Building Design, Efficiency Vermont, 2006
  [Debevoise Hall, Vermont Law School]
- Best Integrated Solutions Award, Building Solutions Conference, Efficiency Vermont, 2002 [S.D. Ireland Family Center for Global Business & Technology; IDX Student Center; and Main Street Suites & Conference Center, Champlain College]

- The National Sierra Club, Best Example of Good Development in Vermont – Sprawl Report 2000, "Smart Choices or Sprawling Growth: A 50-State Survey of Development." [Winooski Downtown Development, Winooski, Vermont]
- ACEC/VT Engineering Excellence Award, 2005 [Champlain College Central Chilled Water Plant, Burlington, VT]
- Excellence in Comprehensive Building Design, Efficiency Vermont, 2005
  [DuBois & King Corporate Headquarters, Randolph, VT]
- ACEC/VT Engineering Excellence Grand Award, 2005 [DuBois & King Corporate Headquarters, Randolph, VT]
- Chittenden County Historical Society Preservation Award, 2004 [Main Street Suites & Conference Center, Champlain College, Burlington, VT]
- Excellence in Architecture Design Award, AIA Vermont, 2002 [Natural Energy Home, Charlotte, VT]
- Excellence in Sustainable Construction Design Award, Quality Building Council of Northeast Sustainable Energy Association, 2000 [Oakes Hall, Vermont Law School]
- Excellence Certificate of Merit, ACEC/VT Engineering [Oakes Hall, Vermont Law School, South Royalton, VT]



#### CASE STUDY // RESIDENTIAL

## **Lewis Creek Home**



#### The Lewis Creek Home shows that durable, net-zero construction can be achieved on an affordable budget.

This modest residence is situated on the northern edge of an existing hay meadow with a view south to the Green Mountains. This house adjoins 65 acres of preserved land that is part of local efforts to improve the Lewis Creek Watershed.

The net-zero house features a 15 kW solar array, with a battery backup providing auxiliary power when required. Air-source heat pump systems provide heating and cooling, as well as hot water. Building materials, details and the efficient thermal envelope reduce upkeep and keep the annual utility costs close to zero.

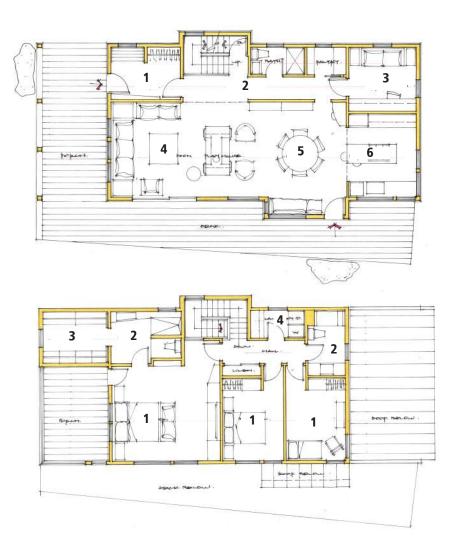
Primary living and gathering spaces are oriented toward the southern view and sun. Smaller service spaces are configured along the north side of the home, facing a wooded area. The design is direct and concise, with glazing and glass doors providing ample natural light and easy access to the outdoors.

While the house echoes the domestic forms of rural Vermont, close inspection reveals a dynamic and contemporary expression. The open floor plan enables various living configurations that can be adapted as a young family grows.

LOCATION: Hinesberg, Vermont PROJECT TYPE: Residential, single family BUILDING SIZE: 2,200 square feet PROJECT COST: \$440,000 COMPLETION DATE: August 2018

#### **SELECT SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES:**

- Thermal envelope constructed with R-24 foundation and basement walls; exterior walls R-42; roof R-72; windows and doors R-7.2
- Infiltration/air changes: .5 at 50 pascals pressure
- Passive solar building orientation
- Electrical high efficiency lighting and appliances
- Air-to-air heat pump system
- Air-to-water heat pump hot water heater
- Roof-mounted 15 KW solar photovoltaic array with two Tesla Battery storage units
- Low flow plumbing fixtures throughout



#### **FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

- 1 ENTRY
- 2 GALLERY
- 3 OFFICE / DEN
- 4 LIVING
- 5 DINING
- 6 KITCHEN

#### SECOND FLOOR PLAN

- 1 BEDROOM
- 2 BATHROOM
- 3 CLOSET
- 4 LAUNDRY



### CASE STUDY // COMMERCIAL Heritage Flight Aviation



The Heritage Flight Aviation terminal and maintenance facility is a model of sustainability for the aviation industry and is the second building of its type to achieve LEED Gold Certification in the United States.

To support their airport campus expansion, TruexCullins transformed a vacated 1955-era Air National Guard hangar into a new maintenance hangar and public terminal for general aviation.

The existing 60,000 sq.ft. Army National Guard hangar was stripped of all exterior walls to the underlying steel and concrete structure and replaced with a high-performance building envelope. A 25-foot addition increased the size of the hangar space and includes a two-story passenger lobby with airport and landscape views. The building also houses a U.S. Port of Entry for the Customs and Border Protection Service and office space.

The project features a high-performance building envelope and a site that captures and recycles all rainwater. On-site renewable energy generation is achieved with a 10-panel solar thermal system, a 120 panel solar PV array, and a 100kW wind turbine, the first of its kind installed at a U.S. regional airport.

LOCATION: Burlington, Vermont PROJECT TYPE: Commercial Transportation and Aircraft Repair Facility BUILDING AREA: 80,000 sq.ft. PROJECT COST: \$17,800,000 COMPLETION DATE: July 2009

#### **CERTIFICATION:** LEED Gold

#### **RECOGNITION:**

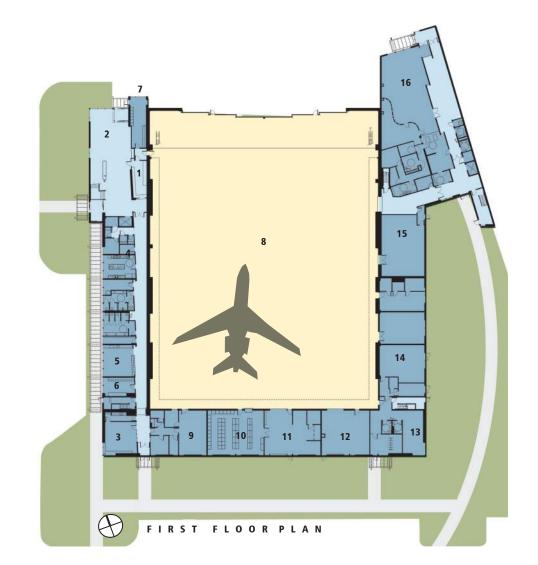
VT Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence, 2011

Hertzel N. Pasachow Architectural Excellence Award, Burlington Business Association, 2010

Best of the Best in Commercial Design & Construction, New Construction Merit Award, Efficiency Vermont, 2010

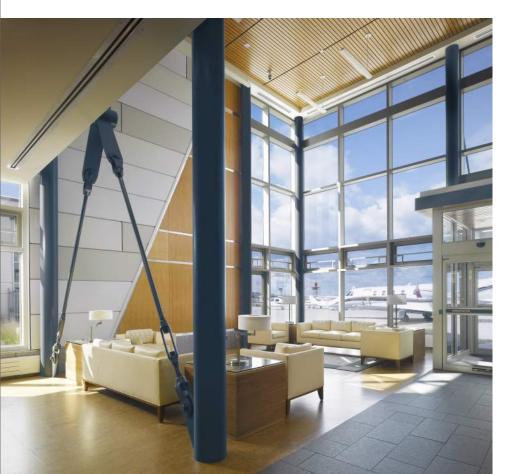
#### **SELECT SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES:**

- Vegetated green roof; high albedo roof
- 25,000 gal. rainwater harvesting system; bioswale stormwater collection area
- 65.2 Mbtu solar thermal system (domestic hot water)
- 25.2 kW solar photovoltaic array
- 100 kW wind turbine
- Steel structure reuse; air sealing & testing



#### **FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

- 1 RECEPTION
- 2 ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE LOUNGE
- **3** CONFERENCE
- 4 COMMISSARY KITCHEN
- 5 DINING AREA
- 6 PILOT PLANNING ROOM
- 7 LINE SERVICE
- 8 MAINTENANCE HANGER
- **9** MAINTENANCE OFFICES
- **10** PARTS/SUPPLIES
- **11** RECEIVING
- **12** VEHICLE SERVICES/MAINTENANCE
- **13** EMPLOYEE LOUNGE
- **14** MECHANICAL
- **15** TOOL STORAGE
- **16** CUSTOMS AND BORDER PATROL







#### CASE STUDY // INTERIOR DESIGN

## **Seventh Generation Headquarters**



#### The Seventh Generation Headquarters is a 100% Agile workplace that reflects the company's social, environmental, and strategic aspirations.

The client's goals for the project were threefold: to expand the size of their onsite R&D Lab; to support projected growth within the company; and to align the workplace experience with the company's social mission and brand values.

As a wholly-owned subsidiary of Unilever, Seventh Generation saw this project as an opportunity to transition to a 100% Agile workplace, with shared work tables, huddle rooms, and open scrum areas on each floor.

Biophilic design elements are incorporated throughout, with interior plants integrated into custom furnishings and product display walls. The natural plantings contribute to improved indoor air quality and acoustics, and are a tangible symbol of the company's focus on bio-based products.

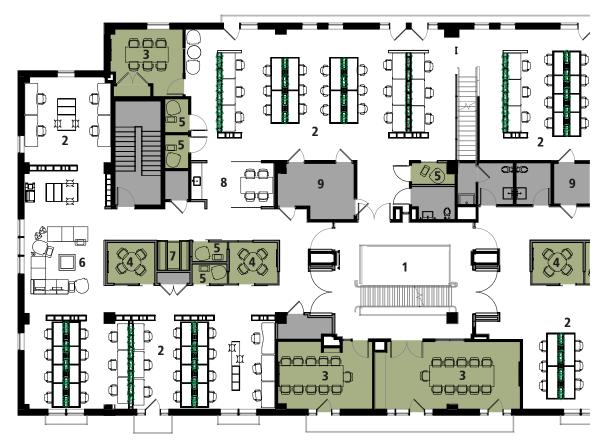
The project is LEED Gold certified, meeting the more stringent requirements of LEED v4. Innovative design strategies include the addition of an on-site garden that provides vegetables for the company cafeteria, and a green cleaning policy that reduces indoor contaminants.

LOCATION: Burlington, Vermont PROJECT TYPE: Renovation, Office and R&D Lab CLIENT: Projected 220-person Corporate Headquarters PROJECT AREA: 36,000 sq.ft. PROJECT COST: \$3,500,000 COMPLETION DATE: January 2020

**CERTIFICATION:** LEED Gold for Commercial Interiors

#### SELECT SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES:

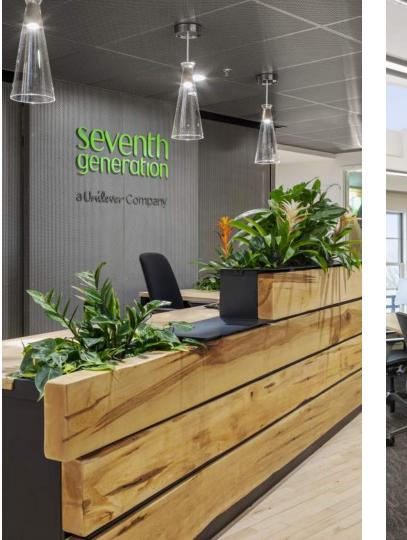
- Water use reduction of 45% below the baseline annual water use of a standard code-compliant office space
- LED lighting, daylight controls and occupancy sensors installed throughout
- Off-site 75 kW net-metered photovoltaic array
- 92% of demolition and construction waste recycled or diverted from the landfill
- High indoor air quality achieved through the use of lowemitting materials, increased ventilation and filtration; and recurring indoor air quality testing
- Biophilic design elements and custom planters contribute to improved indoor air quality and acoustics, and reflect the company's focus on bio-based products
- Green Cleaning Policy that reduces chemical, biological and particulate contaminants



#### **PARTIAL FLOOR PLAN**

- 1 ATRIUM
- 2 OPEN OFFICE
- **3** MEETING
- 4 HUDDLE ROOM
- 5 PHONE BOOTH
- 6 SCRUM
- 7 WORK BOOTH 8 MICRO-KITCHEN
- 9 MECHANICAL







## The AIA 2030 Commitment: A path forward to a sustainable future

The buildings where we live, work and play are responsible for the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions, both in America and around the world. About 40% of energy in the United States is consumed by buildings, contributing to our global climate crisis.

In response to this threat and to acknowledge the building industry's responsibility to address it,

#### The American Institute of Architects has established a goal to achieve carbon-neutral buildings by the year 2030.

The AIA 2030 Commitment is the framework by which firms measure the projected performance of future projects and report progress toward achieving a carbon-neutral portfolio. TruexCullins is proud to join more than 750 other architecture firms nationwide in this effort.

With a steadfast belief in the power of design to transform communities and improve lives,

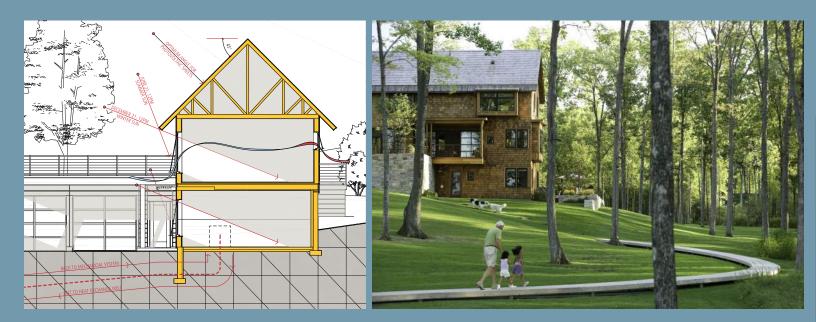
TruexCullins has committed to achieving net-zero carbon emissions for our projects by the year 2030 as a signatory of the American Institute of Architects' 2030 Commitment. This Action Plan lays out a broad strategy for meeting this ambitious goal, with specific steps we will take on multiple fronts.

TruexCullins will meet the 2030 energy reduction targets by incorporating sustainability into all phases of design. We will see real and measured progress by addressing building energy use and efficiency, embodied carbon, life cycle impacts, and material chemistry.

Every project is based on an initial understanding of our client's goals, and then aligning those goals with building performance. We work to maximize a client's investment to achieve the best possible return and deliver a project of lasting value, economically and environmentally.

#### Training & Education:

Staff training and education will be key to a firmwide approach to improved sustainability. Our team of architects and interior designers are trained problem solvers, and are well equipped to identify and manage the many challenges inherent in any project. Additional staff development will focus on sustainable design practices, so that the entire design team is contributing to the firm's pursuit of the 2030 goals.



#### **Design Process & Reporting:**

Within the first year and each year thereafter, TruexCullins will report on the progress of the firm's design portfolio toward meeting the 2030 goals by using the AIA 2030 Commitment reporting tool. For architecture projects, this is measued by *Projected Energy Use Intensity.* For interiors-only projects, this is measured by *Lighting Power Density.* 

Reporting through the AIA 2030 Commitment program will respect the confidentiality of information about specific clients, projects and proprietary tools.

#### **Operations & Outreach:**

We believe in setting a positive example for our colleagues and clients by making energy efficiency improvements to our own place of work and instituting operational changes that minimize our carbon footprint.

We also affirm our commitment to community outreach and engagement. For the past 50 years, TruexCullins has had a strong presence in our community, partnering with progressive organizations, non-profits, and other socially responsible businesses to enact positive change.

#### As we issue our first Sustainability Action Plan on this Earth Day in the year 2020, the world is grappling with a global crisis.

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, whole cities have gone quiet and hundreds of millions have upended their daily routines. Workplaces, schools, hotels and restaurants have closed nationwide, planes have been grounded, and streets are clear of traffic.

While the toll on human health is indisputable, the pandemic has also caused widespread behavioral change by people around the globe, resulting in an unprecedented drop in global carbon emissions.

Our collective response to the Coronavirus pandemic is proof that major changes are indeed possible on a global scale when humanity is faced with an imminent threat.

While we are still in the midst of this tragedy, we are optimistic that we will emerge from it with lessons learned that may be applied to the push for carbonneutral buildings and a more sustainable building industry.





## 2025 **5-YEAR GOALS**

## 2030 **10-YEAR GOALS**

#### REPORTING

Submit the Projected Energy Use  $\overline{}$ Intensity [pEUI] or Lighting Power Density [LPD] for 100% of all active projects.

Submit annual energy usage data. **Conduct Post Occupancy Evaluations** for building performance and occupant comfort.

#### **ENERGY**

Meet the AIA 2030 targets on 50% of architecture and interior design projects.

#### Meet the AIA 2030 targets on 100% of architecture and interior design projects.

#### CARBON

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Measure and evaluate the embodied carbon on all architecture projects.

Achieve carbon neutral or carbon positive buildings on 50% of architecture projects.

#### MATERIALS

- **Explore the use of Life Cycle Assessments** on projects. Evaluate material transparency, material content, and emissions.
- Start to eliminate products with the most harmful environmental and human impact. Require EPDs and/or HPDs on all projects.

 $(\checkmark$ 

Eliminate the use of all Red List materials known for harmful impact to environmental or human health.

#### **Projected Energy Use Intensity (pEUI):**

A calculation of the total amount of energy that will be consumed by a building in one year, divided by the building area, measured in kBtu/sf/yr.

#### Lighting Power Density (LPD):

A measure of the total watts of lighting power per square foot

#### **Embodied Carbon:**

A measure of the carbon dioxide emitted during the manufacture, transport, and construction of building materials, together with end-of-life emissions.

#### The Red List: A list of chemicals that are harmful to humans, compiled by the International Living Future Institute as part of its Living Building Challenge. The Red List includes chemicals such as: asbestos, lead, mercury, and polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

## Professional development, training and education are essential to our ability to develop high performing and sustainable buildings.

At TruexCullins, staff are provided with the resources and opportunities they need to develop their careers and expand their knowledge of advanced building and design strategies. Additional opportunities for staff development will focus on sustainable design means and methods, so that the entire design team will be better equipped to pursue the AIA 2030 goals.



## What We're Doing Now



A 7-person committee has been formed to develop firmwide sustainability standards, educate staff on sustainable design, and assist the firm with meeting the AIA 2030 goals.



Lunch-and-Learn and other educational sessions are provided throughout the year to meet Continuing Education requirements, including for topics related to Health, Safety and Welfare.



TruexCullins provides an annual educational stipend for all employees to attend conferences and workshops. TruexCullins staff regularly attend the Better Buildings by Design conference by Efficiency Vermont, as well as regional and national conferences hosted by AIA, CSI, and other organizations.



TruexCullins encourages professional licensure by reimbursing employees for the cost of exams, fees and study materials. 65% of architectural staff are currently licensed in the State of Vermont or in their home state. TruexCullins encourages LEED accreditation by reimbursing employees for the cost of exams, fees and study materials.



## **Action Items**

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The members of the TruexCullins 2030 Committee
will act as sustainability facilitators, supporting
project managers with the tools they need to meet
the firm's sustainability goals. 2030 Committee
members will work with Project Managers to collect
and submit energy data to the AIA Design Data
Exchange (DDx) website.

- The TruexCullins Sustainability Action Plan will be reviewed with all newly hired staff during new employee orientation.
- Lunch-and-Learn educational sessions to be held on sustainable design topics relevant to the AIA 2030 goals. Topics covered will include: energy modelling, embodied carbon, and Life Cycle Assessment evaluations.

- A Sustainability Glossary to be developed and distributed to all staff firmwide.
- Integrate a Sustainability Coordinator into our workflow, to educate staff, ensure consistency across design studios, and aid in implementing the 2030 Action Plan.
- Staff are encouraged to pursue sustainable design credentials across a range of programs, including LEED, WELL, CPHC, and Living Future Institute. TruexCullins to provide study materials and reimburse exam fees for the sustainable certification program of the employee's choice.

Update the Sustainability Action Plan on a regular basis and report progress to the firm annually.

# Incorporating sustainable design methodology into all phases of a project

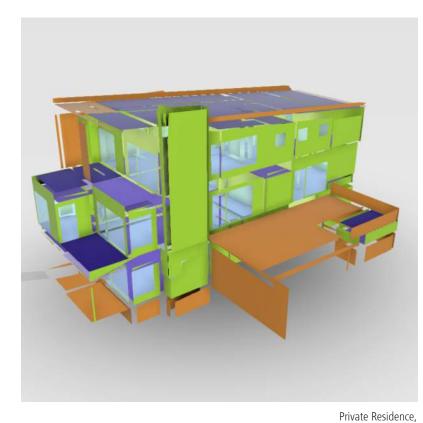
In order to meet the goals of the AIA 2030 Commitment, TruexCullins is incorporating new sustainable design tools and methods into our workflow. This will be followed by a process to gather energy data for all active projects and report it to the AIA on an annual basis.

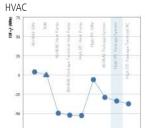
To achieve our 5 and 10-year goals, we have identified the following action items, in benchmarking and reporting, energy, carbon, and materials.

By tailoring specific sustainable design initiatives to each phase of a project, the entire design process is enhanced, and project delivery is improved. We start by exploring multiple possibilities, then through a series of informed decisions, arriving at a solution that most effectively meets the client's goals.

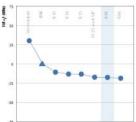
#### **Integrated Design Process:**

- At the project planning phase: Establish project goals and energy targets with the client.
- During the pre-design and concept design phase: Perform early energy modelling – over multiple iterations – to establish building form, orientation, and performance level.
- Throughout project execution: Perform full detailed energy modelling; establish standards for envelope performance; and connect initial system designs to Revit libraries and details.
- Measurement and verification: Complete envelope commissioning; and collect post occupancy data.

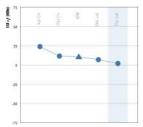








Window Glass - North



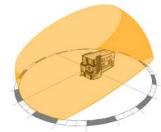
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**Energy Modelling Studies** 

Infiltration (ACH)







## **Action Items**

#### **BENCHMARKING AND REPORTING**

- Select 1 project from each studio to develop and test a benchmarking and reporting process that could be rolled out firmwide.
- Develop design checklists for architecture and interior design projects to integrate sustainability measures into each design phase.
- Establish protocols for collecting and reporting energy data.
- Identify a Sustainability Coordinator to lead the implementation across all design studios and project types.

#### **ENERGY**

- Establish energy targets in the predesign phase of each project.
- Establish standards for when to use energy modelling on projects.
- Implement Autodesk Insight for early energy modeling with multiple iterations to explore design options.
- Work with Energy Modelling consultants on larger projects.

#### CARBON

Evaluate the Tally Life Cycle Assessment app for Revit to measure the embodied carbon of building materials.

Decrease the use of high-embodied carbon materials in current projects

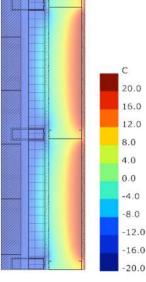
#### MATERIALS

Require Environmental Product Declarations [EPDs] or Health Product declarations [HPDs] on every project.

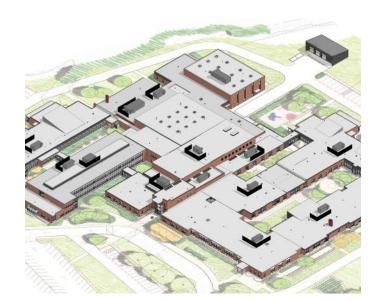
Perform Life Cycle Assessments on projects, evaluating material transparency, content, and emissions.

Decrease the use of Red List materials with the most harmful impact on environmental and human health.

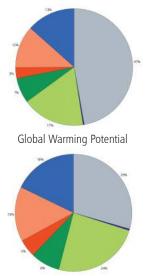
# Additional tasks to reach the 2030 stretch goal of full carbon-neutral buildings



Heat Transfer Modelling Study



Winooski VT K-12 School, Design Development / Materials Analysis



Primary Energy Demand

## **Action Items - Long Term**

Develop a library of Revit system families and construction details,
including floor, wall, and roof assemblies, to align with the
TruexCullins 2030 sustainability goals. Details to be updated over
time as industry standards and sustainability practices evolve.

- Develop construction specification standards, with environmentally friendly product selections that are compiled and vetted, that are available for use on all projects.
  - Conduct envelope commissioning on all architecture projects.
  - Conduct post occupancy evaluations for building performance and occupant comfort
- Perform close-out reviews at the end of every project, collecting data and recording results for reference and comparison against future projects.



Seventh Generation Headquarters, LEED-CI Gold Certified

## **Office Operations**

TruexCullins believes in setting a positive example and has taken steps to reduce our own environmental footprint. Our commitment to a sustainable workplace is measured by everything from energy saving improvements to incentives for alternative transportation.

We continue to evaluate the performance of our space and opportunities for additional improvements. As we refine our process for designing carbon-neutral buildings, we look forward to opportunities to apply those lessons to our own space.



## What We're Doing Now



Our office is located in downtown Burlington, with easy access to multiple services and amenities, public transit, and the Burlington Greenway Bikepath. Our location has a high Walk Score of 84, exceeding WELL building standards.



Recycling at each workstation and in the communal kitchen. On-site Composting. The kitchen is stocked with reusable dishes, glassware, and utensils to minimize waste.



Occupancy sensors are installed in shared spaces to reduce lighting loads.



We worked with the building landlord to replace all the building HVAC units over the past few years, moving to more energy efficient equipment.



Almost all of the exterior windows in our historic building have been replaced with modern, energy-efficient units.

## **Action Items**

#### **ENERGY**

Conduct an LED lighting retrofit, replacing existing fluorescent fixtures with more energy-efficient LED bulbs, in the main studio and open work areas.

Install occupancy sensors in additional spaces to reduce lighting loads.

Explore computer energy policies to reduce phantom loads and off-hours savings that are compatible with remote access and update management.

Explore community solar opportunities to offset office energy use  $\square$ with renewable sources of power.

### TRANSPORTATION

Incentives for alternative transportation, including free bus passes. Join the Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA), which provides incentives, services, and support for alternative transportation options.

Track our travel and office greenhouse gas emissions.



Strengthen our tools and procedures for remote access and virtual collaboration, so that employees may choose to work remotely 1 or 2 days per week.



Consider purchasing carbon offsets to cover our CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.

#### **DAILY OPERATIONS**



Reduce waste from lunch sessions and meetings, including a reduction of food packaging and bottled water.

Develop and implement a Green Cleaning Policy. Continue the use of recycled paper and Seventh Generation cleaning products. Engage in conversations with the cleaning service to transition to natural cleaning products.

Increase vegetarian lunch options at EDU sessions by requiring  $\square$ that at least 50% of food provided by vendors and product reps be plant-based or vegetarian.

Explore becoming a Certified B-Corporation, advancing and validating a purpose-driven mission.

#### **OPERATIONS & OUTREACH**

## **Community Engagement**

TruexCullins believes in service to our community, both locally and globally. We often work with mission driven organizations, advocacy groups, and non-profits, to support positive change. The firm has been a positive voice in the public realm over its entire 50 year history.

Moving forward, engagement with community groups and organizations will be even more important to advance green building practices and encourage public adoption of sustainability initiatives. A collaborative spirit and informed communications are critical to the success of this Action Plan for the future.



### What We're Doing Now



Networking and Connecting with like-minded business organizations to advocate for positive change. TruexCullins is a participating member of: VBSR, BBA, SBBA, VGBN, AIA VT, and more.



Principals and staff currently hold Board positions on environmental and socially conscious organizations, including Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, AIA Vermont, and the National Board of the Construction Specifications Institute.



Principals and staff regularly speak at local, regional, and national conferences and workshops on matters of environmental and social equity.

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TruexCullins advocates for public policies that support sustainability in the built environment.



Support of local non-profits through corporate giving and volunteering, including for Habitat for Humanity, King Street Center, and the United Way. Long running realtionships with International organizations include 52 Kids Foundation in Uganda and Edge of Seven in Nepal.



## **Action Items**

Increase external communications on office sustainability initiatives, including through press releases and blog posts.
Redesign our Sustainability webpage to include information on green building and reports on the firm's progress toward achieving our 2030 goals. Write case studies on projects and office initiatives.
Advocate for policies that support and advance sustainability in the built environment.
Volunteer with community organizations working on energy, water, materials, and resilience.
Work with contractors engineers consultants and clients to

Work with contractors, engineers, consultants, and clients to encourage sustainable design and include them on the path toward reaching 2030 sustainability goals.

## truexcullins

To learn more about our progress toward meeting the AIA 2030 Commitment energy goals, visit: www.truexcullins.com/2030

TruexCullins Architecture + Interior Design 209 Battery Street Burlington, VT 05401 802-658-2775

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