

Salt Lake City School District Sustainability in Action

Project Details



Through a guaranteed energy savings performance contract with McKinstry, Salt Lake City School District is expected to save **\$1.3 million** in utility costs annually, while reducing the district baseline carbon footprint of **31,000 metric tons** by **24%**, and water consumption by **11 million gallons**.



SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

Once completed, the district will be well on its way towards achieving the two primary goals established in the Board of Education's student-initiated sustainability resolution: **100% electricity from renewable sources by 2030** and **100% of district operations with carbon-neutral energy by 2040**.



LIGHTING

In this project, 37 schools will be retrofitted, converting fluorescent to LED lighting while adding dimming controls in classrooms and office areas. Annually, this **retrofit is expected to save \$600,000** while **reducing energy usage by 6 million kilowatt hours** and carbon-related emissions by **4,400 metric tons**.



SOLAR

The district will install **2,500 solar panels** across six elementary school rooftops. Annual production is expected to be **1.4 million kWh**, **saving \$96,000** each year while **reducing carbon-related emissions by 1,000 metric tons**. The first three school rooftop solar installations to be completed this year are at Bonneville, Whittier, and Emerson.



CONTROLS

Building Controls Optimization is an ongoing process involving precision management of building operating systems. Mechanical equipment efficiency upgrades, combined with schedules and setpoints, are expected to **reduce annual utilities by a combined \$290,000**. **Carbon-related emissions are expected to decrease by 2,100 metric tons**.



WATER

Water conservation measures have been implemented at all district schools. Bathroom faucets, toilets and urinals now use **40% less water**. This is expected to **reduce annual consumption of culinary water by 12 million gallons**, **reducing our water and sewer costs by \$120,000 annually**.



BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION

We are implementing electrification pilot projects at two elementary schools, with construction beginning summer 2023. These projects will dramatically reduce the use of natural gas at these schools, as we convert the mechanical space and water heating systems to electric. With the district's commitment to be **carbon neutral by 2040**, elimination of natural gas use at schools is necessary.



INCENTIVE USE

Utility incentives help improve the district's return on investment. We are anticipating receiving nearly **\$2 million in related incentives and grants** to offset project costs.



FINANCING

The district chose to pay for much of this work by means of a **Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement (TELPA)**, a special type of loan that allows the guaranteed utility savings to be used to pay back the loan over time. This is essentially a budget-neutral financing mechanism. The district gets the immediate benefits while paying off the 20-Year loan over many years while maintaining their current utility budget.



Project cost:
\$29.5 million



These projects are currently underway and are **expected to complete by Fall 2023**. The expected utility savings will be verified ongoing and are guaranteed.

Questions related to these projects? Contact:

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SCAN FOR MORE INFO

