

Sustainable Growth Coalition

2024 Charter

I. Vision

The Sustainable Growth Coalition (SGC), an effort of Environmental Initiative, seeks to develop innovative and equitable pathways within the region to advance a circular economy. We envision a transformative economy where all energy is renewable, waste is eliminated, and natural, social, and human resources are protected and preserved. SGC inspires optimism, combined action, and partnership to move towards a positive climate future.

II. Mission and commitment

The multi-sector Sustainable Growth Coalition comprises organizations with strong ties to Minnesota that are working together to:

- Facilitate and catalyze critical conversations.
- Build inclusive partnerships to address multiple sustainability issues.
- Advance programmatic work to foster a circular economy for the well-being of our diverse region.

SGC is committed to providing an inclusive, safe, and equitable space that respects diverse viewpoints, promotes innovation, and embraces non-traditional partnerships across and outside our membership.

III. Objective

The Sustainable Growth Coalition strives to accelerate the development and adoption of sustainable solutions by fostering knowledge sharing and action among members. Its work focuses on furthering the circular economy by encouraging equitable business pathways, promoting sustainable practices, and nurturing partnerships.

IV. Principles

Shared learning We commit to creating spaces that allow members to grow and learn from each other and those outside the membership, bringing in a wide and diverse range of viewpoints. These learning spaces will provide the framework for members to create connections and move collaborative work forward beyond the Coalition.

Collective action. We prioritize collaborative efforts that could not have been accomplished without our collective efforts. Coalition members collaborate to accelerate and escalate accomplishment of shared goals. Individual actions by Coalition members that address shared goals can also further the effectiveness of this collaboration.

Innovation and equity orientation. We believe that systemic change requires innovative approaches that center equity.

Focus. Members agree on a limited number of priority issues and initiatives that will

advance the region's quest towards a circular economy and healthy society through collective action and demonstrated leadership.

Cross-sector. The Coalition membership intentionally includes members from multiple private sectors, who make up the majority of the membership, as well as members from public, non-profit, and community organizations. The Coalition intends to provide unique functions that fill gaps in the current organizational landscape.

Leadership. Member companies are dedicated to the Coalition and contribute their time, ideas, and financial resources to promote its success.

V. Areas of Focus

Activities of the Coalition will be undertaken based on member interests and available resources. All members of the Coalition are not expected to participate in all activities, and members may elect to engage in projects based on individual priorities. In addition, individual member activities that contribute to the realization of Coalition shared goals can be recognized as accomplishments of the Coalition. The work of the Coalition focuses around:

- Identifying and coalescing around opportunities for innovative, equitable, collective, regional actions.
- Creating a space of mutual exchange with members of communities most impacted by environmental and sustainability issues, gaining insights into solutions and pathways that work for them, sharing the work member companies are doing, and taking community feedback on member company plans.
- Hearing leaders' experiences from a circular and equitable standpoint.
- Participating in benchmarking to provide a model for future work.
- Receiving access for members to a learning community where ideas are shared and collective knowledge grows, incorporating external resources as needed.

This Charter contains guiding principles for the Sustainable Growth Coalition, and it is subject to change as the Coalition evolves with time. All changes made to the Charter must be approved by Coalition members through a consensus process. This version of the charter was ratified by the Coalition 3/20/24.