



Academic Senate

PHYSICAL RESOURCES PLANNING

November 21, 2025

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Academic Senate

From: Brian Siana, Physical Resources Planning Committee Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Siana", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Re: [Systemwide Review] (Proposal) Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy on Sustainable Practices

The Physical Resources Planning Committee (PRP) reviewed the *systemwide Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy on Sustainable Practices*. The committee appreciates the efforts to move from indirect to direct decarbonization as indicated in moving from biogas procurement to targeting central plant decarbonization. The committee recognizes this change is facilitated by longer timescale. With this, however, there is concern with the potential for further elongation of the timeline for important direct actions like these as the 2045 90% decarbonization deadline approaches.

The committee considers the most useful and effective policies to be requirements like new building energy efficiency standards, and LEED-gold certification thresholds. These effective policies have been strengthened with this update with requirements of real-world monitoring of energy use intensity (EUI) for one year after occupancy. Nevertheless, many of the items within this policy have aspirational targets, without strict requirements or consequences in the event of failure. The actions as outlined are often focused on “prioritizing,” “fostering,” “pursuing,” and the like, weakening the policy overall and diminishing its potential to compel substantive change.