

Emory Climate Action Task Force Charge

Background: On October 13, 2021, Emory University joined the Climate Leadership Network (CLN) through Second Nature by signing [CLN's Climate Commitment](#). As a signatory, Emory has committed to creating and publicly reporting its annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories, a Climate Action Plan, and an initial Campus-Community Resilience Assessment as well as continuing to report updates. In addition to these deliverables, Second Nature requires signatories to create a joint Campus-Community Task Force to guide their Climate Action Plan and Resiliency Assessment. The Task Force will provide opportunities for diverse perspectives to inform the processes and goals in Emory's climate and resiliency planning. Together, these commitments will allow Emory to make progress toward its stated goals of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 45% by 2030 and reaching net zero emissions by 2050, using a 2010 baseline. The Task Force will also develop the initial campus-community resilience assessment required by Second Nature and in keeping with [Emory's Sustainability Vision](#).

Mission: By bringing together the skillsets and expertise of students, faculty, staff, and community members, the Task Force will help Emory center community engagement in its climate action and resiliency planning processes, fulfill its commitments as part of Second Nature's Climate Leadership Network, and support the university in achieving its GHG emission reduction goals and Sustainability Vision. The Task Force will serve as both an advisor on the Climate Action Plan and Resilience Assessment as well as provide input on how to best engage and respond to community priorities.

The Task Force will be charged with the following responsibilities:

1) Climate Action Plan

- a) Provide input, guidance, and recommendations throughout the development of the Climate Action Plan
- b) Identify existing climate work on campus and across Atlanta to reduce redundancies, note existing strengths, and identify gaps in the work currently underway
- c) Actively work to integrate climate as a key aspect of the culture at Emory across all departments, offices, student organizations, and programs
- d) Suggest goals and actionable steps to achieve carbon neutrality and further integrate climate and resilience into educational and research opportunities

2) Resilience Assessment

- a) Engage in information-sharing, research, and discussion about existing resilience work on campus and across the Atlanta community
- b) Identify resilience strengths, vulnerabilities, and metrics both on and off campus
- c) Share recommendations, input, and feedback on Emory's initial Resilience Assessment

3) Community Engagement

- a) Engage Emory community members in climate and resilience planning and assessment
- b) Help shape materiality assessments to gauge community values and priorities related to climate and resilience

Logistics: The Task Force will convene monthly throughout the 2022-2023 academic year and following summer, beginning in October, and continuing to meet monthly through August 2023. Given that resiliency and climate planning draw on diverse skillsets and areas of expertise, the membership of the Task Force will be dynamic and change throughout the duration of the planning process, with some members working exclusively on either the Climate Action Plan or Resilience Assessment, and others bridging the two commitments. All members will be invited to provide guidance and input on the format of the materiality assessments.