MELODY CATALPA NEIGHBORHOOD CLIMATE ACTION FORUM

Thursday, July 15, 6-9:30 PM

Sponsored by the City of Boulder Department of Climate Initiatives

Facilitated by *Accelerate* Neighborhood Climate Action (ANCA)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Melody Catalpa ANCA Committee
- Lindy Hinman
- Andrew Markel
- Carolyn Hales

City of Boulder Sustainability Initiative
- Elizabeth Vasatka
  Sustainability Coordinator

- Emily Sandoval
  Communications Specialist

Presenters
- Parry Burnap, Sustainability Advocate – Climate Science Presentation
- Ryan Lewis, Founder & CEO of EarthHero

ANCA Facilitation Team
- Sunny Walker
- Sherwood Shankland
- Catherine Welch

Raffle Sponsor
- Ryan Lewis, EarthHero

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MELODY-CATALPA CLIMATE ACTION FORUM AGENDA

Wednesday, July 15, 2021   6 :00-9:30 PM

6:00 PM	Welcome and Introductions
6:10	Review of the Agenda and Goals for the Forum
6:20	Climate Change: Current State of Play – Parry Burnap
6:35	Personal Reflection for Vision - 3-5 Year Accomplishments

What do you see in the next 3-5 years if our Neighborhood were to reduce its carbon footprint? What would that look like?

6:50	Developing a Neighborhood Vision
	● Complete a 3-5 Year Vision
	● Choose Where to Work in the First Year
7:40	BREAK
7:50	Re-Use, Reduce, Recycle: Reflections from Ryan Lewis
8:00	Developing Action Plans for First Year
9:15	Reflection and Celebration
	● Immediate next steps
	● Ryan's give-away
	● Participant reflections on the day
9:30	END

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

 July 16, 2021

The Neighborhood Climate Action Forum last Thursday was attended by 18 Melocats 😃 . The evening was fun, challenging and inspiring. And it was just the beginning!

We agreed on three main projects for the coming year, and we can use more person-power for each of these. If you were unable to participate in the Forum but would like to join one or more of these efforts, please contact the person listed under each initiative.

1. **Continue and expand the Reduce-ReUse-Recycle project** which kicked off with the May with 8 *Roundup* in Melody Park. In addition to periodic collection events, this project will include outreach and education about reducing waste as a significant way to reduce the carbon footprint of both households and our neighborhood. To join this group, **contact Lindy Hinman at lindy.hinman@gmail.com**

2. **Bringing solar-power to more Melody-Catalpa households.** There are lots of ways to access solar energy, plus a wide array of contractors and support programs out there. Sorting through it all can be daunting, and money is an obstacle for many households. Our group's goal is to assemble all this information and leverage community action to bring more clean, solar-powered electricity to our neighborhood. If you would like to join this *energizing* effort, **contact Andrew Markley at amarkley@gmail.com .** If you already have access to solar electricity, please share your experience, whether positive or negative.

3. **Create a robust neighborhood website.** This may not sound like it has much to do with reducing our carbon footprint, but we realized that information sharing and education will be critical to any climate change mitigation efforts we undertake. We welcome participants with design skills, technical expertise, or just inspiration about how the website might support our climate activism, as well as helping our neighborhood in more general ways. To join this group, **contact Carolyn Hales at carolynhales49@gmail.com .**

We understand that many people were unable to participate in the 3 1/2 hour Forum on Thursday. Rest assured that joining any of these 3 initiatives won't require any more epic Zoom meetings! You can contribute as your time and knowledge allow. With more people-power, we hope to expand our future efforts beyond the projects listed above. Please join us!

Melocats for Climate Action

ONE THING YOU ARE ALREADY
DOING FOR THE PLANET

To stop climate change, I'm already ...	Names
1. Very Bee friendly yard, big garden, lots of plants!	Anna
2. Waste Reduction	Carolyn
3. Waste Reduction	Debra
4. Waste Reduction	Andrew
5. Working to change Boulder City/County Transport patterns, CRA.	Gary
6. Started the Bee Safe Boulder Movement	Molly
7. Founding member of the Bee Safe Movement, Re-use items	Emily
8.	Wendell
9. Wind Power	Amy
10. Waste Reduction - Wind Dried Laundry	Claire
11. Garden with lots of bee friendly / Waste Reduction - Composting	Jess / Lindy
12. Lawn Mowing - Push mower!	Pete
13. Ride bike as much as possible (bus backup)	Zoe

After introductions, there was a "State of the Climate" presented by climate and sustainability activist, Parry Burnap. See highlights on the following page.

CLIMATE CHANGE: CURRENT STATE OF PLAY

Some highlights from the Parry Burnap, climate and sustainability activist, presentation below: Beginning with thin blue line, our shell of atmosphere that provides our oxygen.
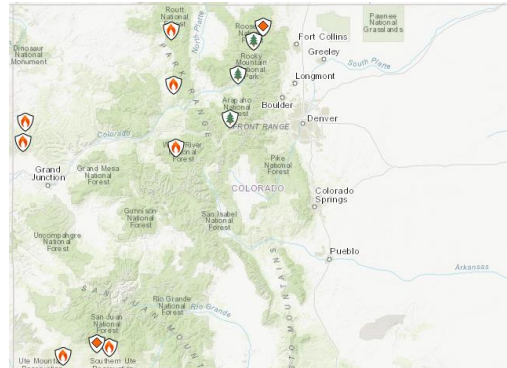

 The sources of the problem…

A Current Result

2021 US Forest Fires

2021 Colorado Forest Fires

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

> # A change will come about because ordinary people do extraordinary things.
> ~ Barack Obama

What followed was some time for personal reflection and sharing of hopes and dreams for a beautiful and resilient future by lowering our neighborhood's carbon footprint. As we spoke, facilitators captured our ideas on "sticky notes" on a platform called Mural. See below.

After the general discussion, there were small group breakouts to talk further with other residents and share more ideas about what we imagined for the future.

THE MURAL VISION WORKSPACE

Below is an image of the entire workspace we used for laying out the work. The primary focus was on capturing the vision.
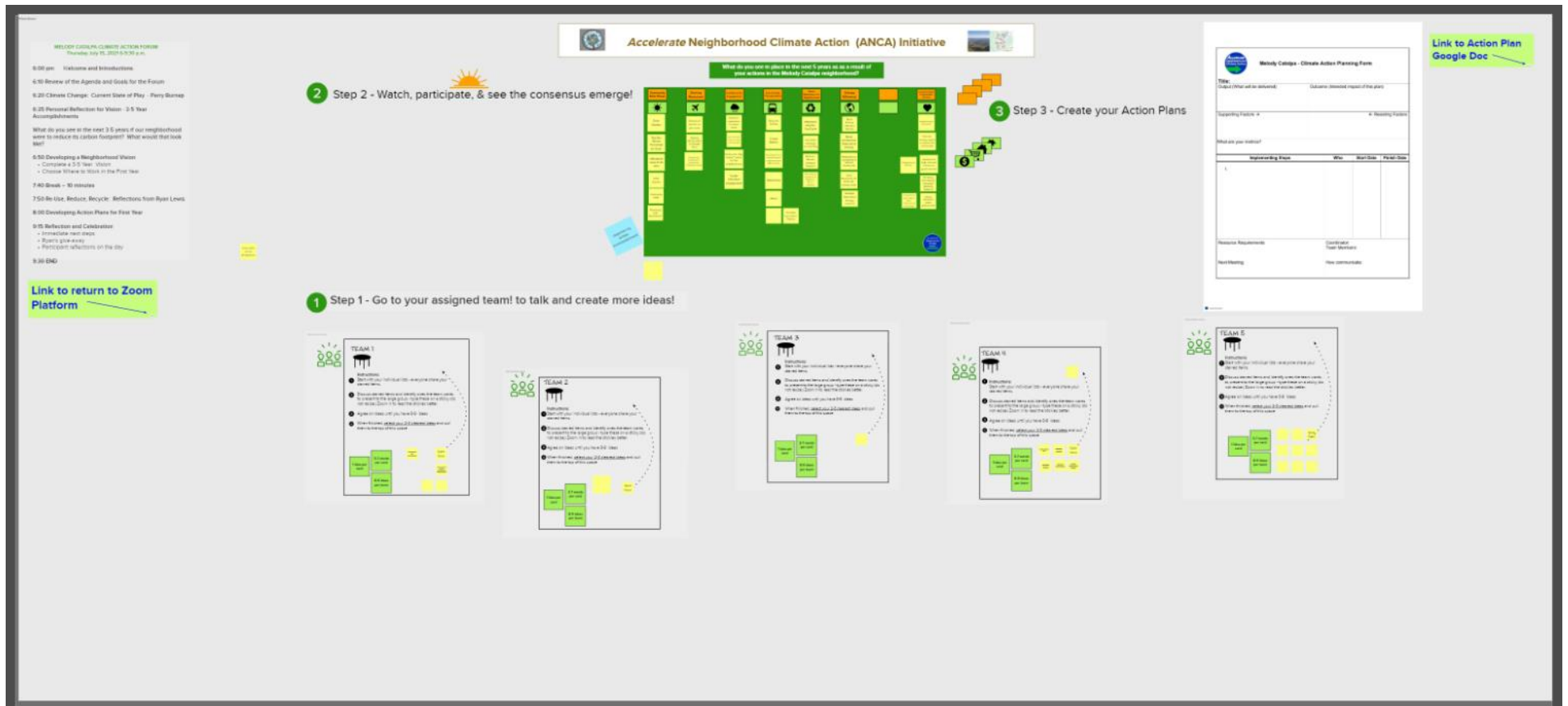
As you will see on the next page, a closeup of the Vision, our ideas were organized under symbols. When all ideas were clustered, we looked at each column and named what the longer range vision was in that area.

MELODY CATALPA 3-5 YEAR CLIMATE ACTION VISION

What do you see in place in the next 5 years as as a result of your actions in the Melody Catalpa neighborhood?

Community Solar Power	Sharing Resources	Collaborative Engagement	Eco-friendly Transportation	Waste Reduction as a Neighborhood	Energy Efficiency		Communication & Information Sharing
Solar Garden	Sharing of electric vs gas tools	listserve expansion to share ideas	Reduced Driving	electronic recycle - EcoCycle	More Energy Efficient Homes		Neighborhood Newsletter
Big Box Stores Partnered for Solar	Sharing electric items on Google Docs	door to door + flyers invite new people	E-bike Station	education campaign on recycling	More Accessible Alternative Energy		Find an energy expert to advise the community
affordable ways to do solar	Community Involvement (communal cooking/sharing)	Define the "Big Impact" areas for the neighborhood	Fund Raise for a disadvantaged neighborhoods (Bike clocks)	Reduce / Re-use Initiative Expands	Neighborhood commitment to reduced housing size	Neighborhood Website	resource to help educate n'hood on good choices
Solar Garden		Foster individual engagement	Bike Share	Educational Component Reduce / Reuse Initiative	Pool Resources for better alt. energy deals		On Going Educational Campaign (Rotating Subject)
Community Solar			eBikes		Multiple Alternative Energy sources	n'hood fair to pick orgs to join - resources & knowledge	n'hood resources trades person's info
Partnering with Businesses			Increase use of Eco-Passes				

organize by similar accomplishment

Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action!

MELODY CATALPA 3-5 YEAR CLIMATE ACTION VISION

What do you see in place in the next 5 years as a result of your actions in the Melody Catalpa neighborhood?

Community Solar Power	Sharing Resources	Collaborative Engagement	Eco-friendly Transportation	Waste Reduction as a Neighborhood	Energy Efficiency	Communication & Information Sharing
• Solar Garden • Big Box Stores Partnered for Solar • Affordable ways to do solar • Solar Garden • Community Solar • Partnering with Businesses	• Sharing of electric vs. gas tools • Sharing electric items on Google Docs • Community Involvement (communal cooking / sharing)	• Listserv expansion to share ideas • Door to door – flyers invite new people • Define the "Big Impact" areas for the neighborhood • Foster individual engagement	• Reduced Driving • E-bike Station • Fund Raise for disadvantaged neighborhoods (Bike docks) • Bike Share • eBikes • Increase use of Eco-passes	• Electronic recycle – EcoCycle • Education campaign on recycling • Reduce / Re-use Initiative Expands • Educational Component Reduce – Reuse Initiative	• More Energy Efficient Homes • More Accessible Alternative Energy • Neighborhood commitment to reduced housing size • Pool Resources for better alt. energy deals • Multiple Alternative Energy sources	• Neighborhood Newsletter • Find an energy expert to advise the community • Neighborhood Website • Resource to help educate n'hood on good choices • Ongoing Educational Campaign (Rotating Subject) • N'hood resources trades person's info • N'hood fair to pick orgs to join – resources & knowledge

The bulleted items above (individual yellow cards on the Mural wall) are from individuals or small breakout groups. The titles in bold at the top of the columns represent the group's consensus on elements of the Vision.

RE-USE, REDUCE, RECYCLE: REFLECTIONS
FROM RYAN LEWIS

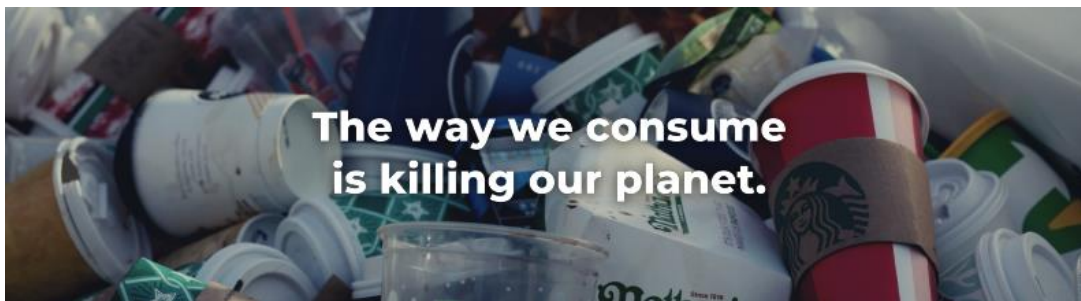See a few highlights below, and full PDF [here](#).
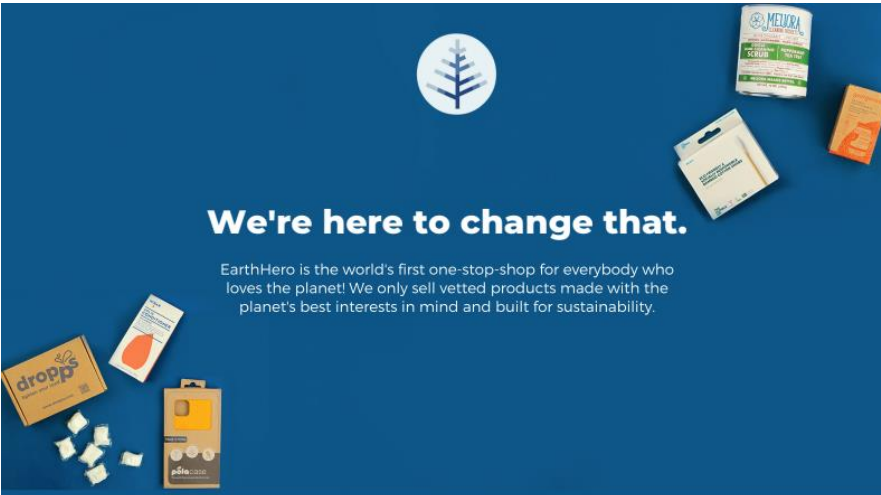
The way we consume is killing our planet.

We're here to change that.

EarthHero is the world's first one-stop-shop for everybody who loves the planet! We only sell vetted products made with the planet's best interests in mind and built for sustainability.

Swaps are easy – just one example (more in the PDF)

Plastic Dish Soap & Sponges
- NON-RECYCLABLE OR COMPOSTABLE
- MADE FROM PETROLEUM BASED RESOURCES
- PLASTIC BOTTLE
- OFTEN CONTAINS TOXINS LIKE TRICLOSAN, SLS, CHLORINE
- 1 BOTTLE LASTS – 1-2 MONTHS

SIMPLE SWAPS

- PLASTIC FREE AND MADE FROM BAMBOO & PLANT FIBERS
- COMPOSTABLE AND RECYCLABLE PARTS
- PACKAGE FREE = LESS WASTE
- NON-TOXIC AND NATURAL INGREDIENTS
- 1 BLOCK LASTS- 6 MONTHS... SAVES MONEY!

Solid Dish Soap Block & Dish Scrubber

The sustainable swaps don't stop there!

THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF WAYS TO SWITCH THE EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS IN YOUR LIFE WITH MORE ECO-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES!

Just ask this one question:

HOW WILL THIS PURCHASE IMPACT THE PLANET?

MELODY CATALPA 1-YEAR ACTION PLANS

As a whole group, we looked at the longer-range Vision and chose to launch our action plans in two areas: Community Solar and Communication & Information. We individually chose one of those to work on and in breakout teams, we completed the two following plans. You are invited to join these teams or to take on a new area that is important to you. (See Executive Summary at the beginning of the document.) In addition, doing a second electronic roundup is in the works!

We as neighbors are not strangers to connecting and working together. Not only the electronic roundup, but the mural at 16th and Kalmia and the award as the first "bee safe" community in Colorado are fine examples of the Melody Catalpa spirit.
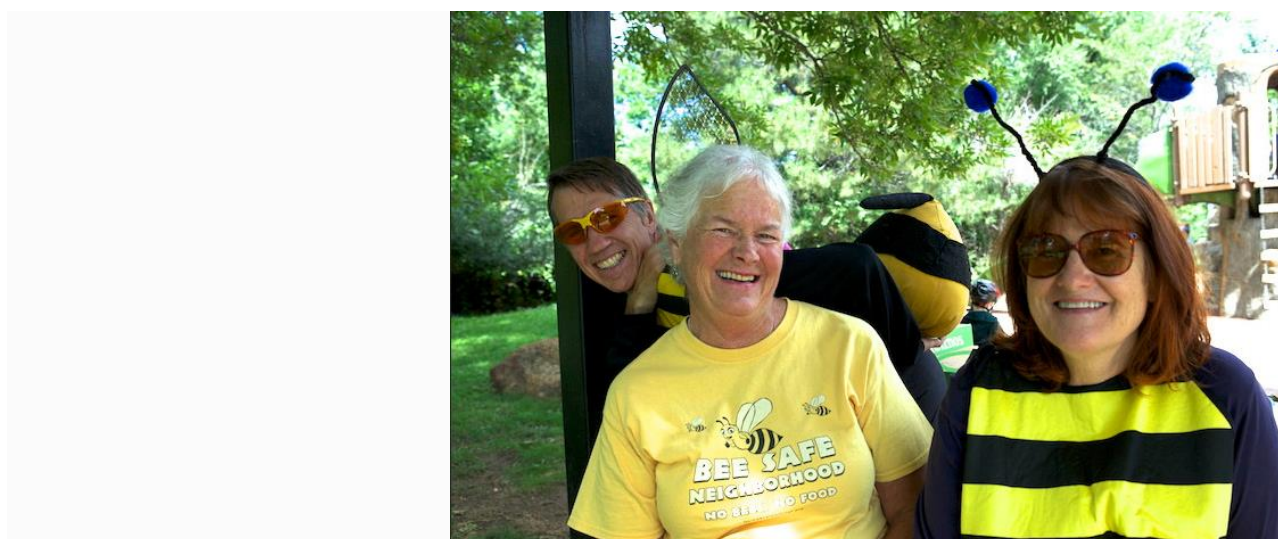
Melody Catalpa Climate Action Plan

Title: Community Solar

Output (What will be delivered) Education campaign on solar options Pilot solar garden plan	Outcome (Intended impact of this plan - the why) Increasing solar adoption in the neighborhood
Supporting Factors → People want (affordable) solar power Long term cost savings Economies of scale	← Resisting Factors Cost of installation Space for the solar array

What are your metrics?
Solar garden plan
Neighborhood commitment (target TBD)

Implementing Steps	Who	Start Date	Finish Date
1. Research	Andrew	7/15	
2. Engaging with experts	Andrew	7/25	
3. Determine set of options	Team		
4. Disseminate information	Jess		
5. Get additional planning members	Lindy	7/15	
6. Get commitment			
7. Find commercial partners/space for installation	Lindy		
8. Draft and finalize plan	Jess		

Resource Requirements: Next Meeting: 7/23	Coordinator: Team Members: Andrew Lindy Jess How communicate: Email/zoom

Melody Catalpa Climate Action Plan

Title: Website Creation for Melody Catalpa neighborhood

Output (What will be delivered)	Outcome (Intended impact of this plan)
Website	Information and resource sharing Communication tool Foster neighborhood change around carbon reduction

Supporting Factors →	← Resisting Factors
Precedent for sharing info via google docs URL or domain name Information to put on it Facebook page City support/funding/resources	Volunteers to build the site Volunteers to maintain the site Professional help to design/build Funding for hosting the site ($120-200/year)

What are your metrics?
Website is built and working
Site is widely disseminated and used within the neighborhood
Protection against misuse/security

Implementing Steps	Who	Start Date	Finish Date
1. Reaching out to Risë and Jan for URL 2. Check out other examples; ex. Lopez Rocks, Cheesman Park ANCA 3. This group meet and talk next steps 4. Share the plan with the neighborhood and get volunteers to help; in-person meeting to plan? 5. Research who could help build the site 6. Identifying the framework/site hosting for the site (WordPress or similar) 7. Identifying funding for hosting (city? neighbors?) 8. Categorizing what to put on the website 9. Design the site 10. Implement the site, test, get feedback 11. Get the word out! 12. Identify a process for updates and additions, and volunteers to do it	Gary All All; Carolyn will send email	7/15 7/15 7/16	7/22 7/20

Resource Requirements: Next Meeting: week of 7/19	Coordinator: Carolyn/Zoe Team Members: Carolyn, Gary, Molly, Pete, Zoe How communicate: email

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

Immediate Next Steps Include:

1. Sunny sharing a document from all the work.
2. Action Plan teams reach out for more members
3. Carolyn send a summary of the event out broadly
4. Action Plan teams begin work!

REGISTRATION LIST

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ABOUT ANCA

Accelerate **Neighborhood Climate Action** was formed initially by a group of Denver colleagues who saw a need to involve Denver residents in the City's sustainability efforts. The word "Neighborhood" was added to the name as it had become the vehicle through which to engage people.

ANCA was incorporated as a 501(c)3 charitable organization in March of 2019. To date (7-16-21) 16 Climate Action Forums, 12 in Denver covering 14 neighborhoods and 4 in Boulder, have been completed with nearly 60 neighborhood level Action Plans created. Interchange events between these neighborhoods are held twice a year. In December of 2019, ANCA was invited to present their work at Denver's Sustainability Summit.

The City of Boulder launched their own ANCA program with a city-wide Climate Action Forum demonstration on November 14, 2020 and is continuing with 5 specific neighborhood "pilots" in 2021. To date, only 1 pilot remains.

- Phase One: Martin Acres, Sundance, and Goss Grove
- Phase Two: HyView and Melody Catalpa

Website: http://accelerateclimateaction.org
Boulder website: Accelerating Neighborhood Climate Action (ANCA) (bouldercolorado.gov)
Facebook: Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action Denver

APPENDIX

Reading Links for Melody Catalpa Climate Action Forum

The Urgency of the Climate Crisis – One Example:
Climate Change Forces Brutal Choices at National Parks

What YOU can do to reduce your carbon footprint:
https://www.nytimes.com/guides/year-of-living-better/how-to-reduce-your-carbon-footprint

Energy – converting our homes to *clean* electric power:

Shawn Armstrong on retrofitting your home: https://youtu.be/LQVaChdz4Bc

UnNatural Gas https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_I8xc9hLoU

Jack's Solar Garden – a low cost way to get solar energy https://youtu.be/tlVqY49FFE8

Transportation & Community Design: Our neighborhood is considered one of the least walkable in Boulder – for getting to stores, dry cleaners & other services, etc. Can we brainstorm ways to be less car dependant?

Scott McCarey from Martin Acres: https://youtu.be/oXNnOzOoES8

Suburban Living the Worst for Carbon Emissions:
https://usa.streetsblog.org/2021/07/12/study-suburban-living-the-worst-for-carbon-emissions/

Waste Reduction: How can we educate ourselves and our neighbors to be better at the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle?

Kara Mertz – sorting 101 https://vimeo.com/221900545

Will the Circular Economy Save the Planet? (beware of the promises)
https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2021-1-january-february/feature/will-circular-economy-save-planet

Plastic Bottlers are Lying About Recycling: https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/plastic-bottlers-are-lying-about-recycling?mostpopular=true

Food Waste: Boulder Food Rescue Partnership

Empowerment

Jim Hooten on lobbying & political action: https://youtu.be/inttgFk89kU

Time Banks – Interesting tool for encouraging neighborhood cooperation and connection. Can we think of ways to put Time Banks to use for climate action?
> https://youtu.be/l4IjMyXG210
> https://timebankboulder.org/

Melody Catalpa Climate Action Plan

Title:

Output (What will be delivered)	Outcome (Intended impact of this plan)
Supporting Factors →	← Resisting Factors

What are your metrics?

Implementing Steps	Who	Start Date	Finish Date
1.			

Resource Requirements: Next Meeting:	Coordinator: Team Members: How communicate:

Melody Catalpa Climate Action Plan

Title:

Output (What will be delivered)	Outcome (Intended impact of this plan)
Supporting Factors →	← Resisting Factors

What are your metrics?

Implementing Steps	Who	Start Date	Finish Date
1.			

Resource Requirements:	Coordinator: Team Members:
Nxt Meeting:	How communicate:

Melody Catalpa Climate Action Plan

Title:

Output (What will be delivered)	Outcome (Intended impact of this plan)

Supporting Factors →	← Resisting Factors

What are your metrics?

Implementing Steps	Who	Start Date	Finish Date
1.			

Resource Requirements: Next Meeting:	Coordinator: Team Members: How communicate: