

# MOCA ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 5, 2021

Welcome to the museum's inaugural Environmental Newsletter. We are excited about the foundational steps that MOCA is taking in sustainability. Thank you for your thoughts and support as we take these steps collectively. Based on staff observations, Art to Zero has compiled a staff ideas summary to inform the museum's future sustainability actions.

## WHAT'S ACCOMPLISHED

- MOCA received a 2021 grant from the Los Angeles [Low Carbon Leaders Program](#) which enabled the museum to identify infrastructure pathways to net zero carbon emissions.
- MOCA received a 2021 inaugural grant from the [Frankenthaler Climate Initiative](#) to implement a solar array at The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA.
- MOCA joined the [Gallery Climate Coalition](#) and supported them in founding a GCC LA chapter. Check out their website for a range of sustainability resources!
- The [Single-Use Plastics](#) visual assessment is complete. We're compiling the data and working to find replacements for single-use plastics. Please check in with Simone for updates or requests!
- The 2021 Staff Transportation Survey is complete. 75% of staff respondents drive to work, and 25% utilize public transportation or other low carbon methods.

- The 2021 [Travel Expense Report](#) document has been updated to allow for the collection of data used to track carbon emissions linked to staff travel.

## WHAT'S ON NOW

- Since early 2021, the museum has been working toward the completion of our [carbon footprint](#) audit for 2019 which covers three [scopes](#) of emissions. The Carbon Accounting Company is supporting this audit. Once complete, the museum will have a firm understanding of the footprint baseline to support annual carbon emissions reductions. Here is a useful [glossary](#) of carbon terminology.
- The museum has completed the collection of data needed for the 2019 carbon accounting, and is close to finalizing the historical accounting, which will account for carbon use dating back to the museum's founding in 1979! Thank you for collectively helping us track down this information.
- The carbon audit includes Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 emissions. For your reference, Scope 1 emissions include the combustion of fuels in company-owned sources -- like a company-owned car. Scope 2 accounts for indirect carbon emissions from the purchase of electricity, steam, heat, or cooling. Scope 3 emissions include a range of indirect emissions that occur in the museum's processes. This includes shipping, travel, building materials, and waste.

## WHAT'S NEXT

- Renewable Energy: MOCA is researching plans to shift the Geffen building to solar power. Thanks to recent grants, and the sustainability teamwork from MOCA staff, the museum is now in Phase Two of solar work. The aim is to provide the museum with renewable energy in a cost-effective manner. Renewable energy and reducing overall energy consumption are key components of the museum's climate strategy. Buildings currently account for 40% of U.S. carbon emissions.

- Net-Zero Exhibitions: MOCA recently hosted its first net-zero carbon exhibition, *Pipilotti Rist: Big Heartedness, Be My Neighbor*. Thank you to the MOCA Exhibitions Team for their support of this exhibition sustainability analysis at the museum. The upcoming program *Sun & Sea*, which engages climate as a central theme, will be the museum's next net-zero exhibition. *Sun & Sea* received the Golden Lion Award at the 2019 Venice Biennial. Thank you to The Hammer and CAP UCLA for the collaboration on this exhibition.

## LA COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

- [COMPOSTABLE LA](#) diverts food scraps from landfills by offering compost pick-up services. They deliver compost starter kits that include a 4 gallon sealable bin and a sawdust pouch. The bin is collected weekly or bi-weekly and a new bin is left in its place.
- [STAND-L.A.](#) is an environmental justice coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction. They offer a range of [engagement](#) options on their site.