

SUSIE STRIFE, PHD

Director, Sustainability, Climate Action & Resilience

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EXPERIENCE

Director of Sustainability, Climate Action & Resilience Department 01/2020 - Present

Boulder County Boulder, CO

- Directing Boulder County's first-ever Sustainability Department launched in 2020
- Leading a 30-person team prioritizing climate action and racial equity
- Managing \$12M-\$15M budget from sustainability sales tax fund to support innovative and regional climate action solutions
- Founder of Communities for Climate Action, a statewide climate policy advocacy organization with 44 local government members
- Designed and implemented the Climate Innovation Fund, investing in technologies and practices addressing the climate crisis
- Creator and co-founder of the 4 Corners Carbon Coalition, a carbon removal platform for local governments aggregating resources for impact

Sustainability Coordinator 01/2008 - 01/2020

Boulder County Commissioner's Office Boulder, CO

- Deployed \$25M Department of Energy Better Building grant to jumpstart the clean energy economy across the region
- Initiated and led Boulder County's Environmental Sustainability Plan through a multi-departmental collaborative process
- Launched the nation's first clean energy finance program resulting in \$13M in investments
- Managed a credit union-based clean energy loan program which made available \$35M in lending capital for clean energy improvements in Boulder and Denver counties
- Created the country's first pooled purchasing program for electric vehicles and e-bikes helping Colorado emerge as a top ten EV market

Adjunct Faculty 01/2011 - Present

University of Colorado Boulder, CO

- Design and teach sustainability courses at the University of Colorado's MENV Graduate Program
- Improved curricula through interactive content and real-world examples
- Nine papers published in academic journals

EDUCATION

Executive Energy Leadership Academy 2016

National Renewable Energy Lab Golden, Colorado

Ph.D. Environmental Studies 01/2003 - 01/2008

University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado

Environmental Studies/International 01/1999 - 01/2002

B.A. Middlebury College dual major Middlebury, Vermont

SUMMARY

I am a passionate big picture thinker with extensive experience managing high-impact climate solutions. My expertise is in creating and implementing innovative carbon reduction and clean energy programs at the organizational, community and statewide level. I have a reputation for connecting the dots to advance systemic change and deliver partnership-driven outcomes.

ACHIEVEMENTS

◆ National Association of Counties Award

Innovation + Sustainability Award (2013, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2023)

◆ 40 under Forty Award

Recognizing professional leaders in Boulder County under the age of 40

◆ Colorado Green Building Guild

Sustainability Innovation Award 2015

◆ Person of the Year Award

Boulder Weekly Award for achievement of sustainability goals

◆ Best in Education Award

Recognizing University of Colorado's top graduate student educators

◆ EPA Science to Achieve Results Fellow

Competitive and distinguished paid fellowship funding my doctoral research on environmental inequity

PASSIONS

▲ Backcountry skiing

▲ Foothills Elementary School Volunteer

◆ Travel