

**TGIF**  
**Toro Green Initiative Fund**  
**Report**  
**2022-23**



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## Toro Green Initiative Fund Report 2022-23

www.csudh.edu/sustainability | sustainability@csudh.edu | 310-243-2303 | Cal State Dominguez Hills, 1000 E. Victoria St. Carson, CA

Based on the success of the 2018-2019 Toro Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) initially funded by President Parham to spur student leadership around sustainability projects on campus, the CSUDH Office of Sustainability began offering a permanent, annual \$5,000 renewing fund to support TGIF.

Eleven students submitted fourteen unique project ideas to TGIF in the 2022-23 academic year, six of which were awarded funding and implemented during the 2023 spring semester. Five additional projects were integrated as part of existing sustainability and/or campus initiatives and were not allocated specific funding from this fund.

### Externally Funded/No Cost Projects

#### Green Dorm Room Demo

**Student Applicant: Harmony Gregorio | \$500**

This project proposed adding examples of how to live more sustainably into a demo dorm room. This was adapted to provide green living welcome kits to in-need students moving into temporary/emergency housing units at Housing Phase I/II. These kits (30 of which were distributed at the beginning of summer 2023, and another 30 of which were distributed at the start of fall semester 2023) provide green cleaning tools, reusable utensils and beeswax wraps, eco-friendly hygiene items (plus access to DIY recipes), Toro Token containers, and more to meet essential needs while also supporting an eco-friendly lifestyle for recipients. Supplies were funded directly by the Office of Sustainability and leveraged the TGIF funded Toro Token Container project (end of this report).



Assembled emergency housing kit

#### Bicycle Rental Program

**Student Applicant: Michael Wood | \$0- Implementation**

This project proposed adding a rental bicycle program to encourage alternative modes of transit to and from campus. As the university has multiple options from various vendors and municipalities for bicycle rental programs already that would be free/no-cost to the campus, this was tabled as a future implementation item.

#### Zero Waste Initiatives

**Student Applicant: Allison Pary | \$0- Implementation**

This application proposed adding additional items (reusable coffee cups) to the existing Toro Token program which accepts reusable food containers. This idea is being integrated along with the general implementation and expansion efforts of the program which are ongoing.

**Student Applicant: Madison Medhat | \$0- Implementation**

This application proposed having campus labs participate in the Kimberly Clark recycling program for gloves (which would require participating labs to use only gloves from that manufacturer). The Office of Sustainability is actively pursuing options for a centralized Kimberly Clark contract to ensure a lower campus price for these gloves to support a resulting recycling program as part of its Green Labs Program initiatives.

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### Replace Eucalyptus with Native Trees

**Student Applicant: Azure Fisher | \$600**

This application proposed replacing dying eucalyptus trees near the Natural Science and Mathematics (NSM) building with California native trees. As the campus has already committed funding to taking down hazardous eucalyptus trees and replacing them with new more appropriate trees in that area, the Office of Sustainability will add \$600 to its tree re-planting fund/efforts in Fall 2023.



Eucalyptus trees surrounding the NSM building.

### Retrofit Inefficient Water Fixtures

**Student Applicant: Ricardo Aguayo | Amount Awarded: \$500**

This project proposed supporting installing water efficient fixtures on campus to help conserve campus potable water usage. \$500 was awarded out of the Toro Green Initiative Fund to support a pilot project to retrofit one of the Student Health Center bathrooms with water efficient fixtures. Renco Sales donated a water efficient sink to the project, and Facilities Services covered labor costs and remaining parts to cover the retrofit project. As a result, the bathroom was upgraded with a water efficient sink which will become the new standard for the remaining bathrooms in the building and future retrofits if successful/well-received by building users.



Plumbers working on the retrofit



New water efficient sink installed

### LSU Hydration Station

**Student Applicant: David Saldana | Amount Awarded: \$1,000**

While all stateside campus water fountains have already been retrofitted to include a bottle filler/hydration station to enable users to refill reusable water bottles easily, the Loker Student Union (LSU) still has two water fountain locations that do not have a bottle filler. This application proposed providing a bottle filler fountain to replace the ground floor location to ensure 100% coverage for bottle fillers on campus. Based on this application, a bottle filler unit was purchased and delivered to the LSU facilities team for install on the ground floor to provide this service to campus users.

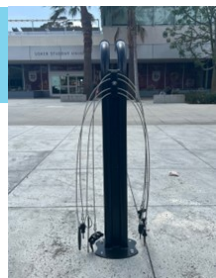


Water fountains on the 5th floor of FZVLSU

### Bike Repair Station

**Student Applicant: David Saldana | Amount Awarded: \$1,000**

This project proposed adding a public repair stations for bicycles to support campus users bicycling to campus. This repair station, which includes a variety of bicycle repair tools to help repair emergency flats and mechanical issues was installed on the East Walkway next to the existing bicycle rack.



New repair station on the East Walkway

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### Walking Trail Signage

**Student Applicant: David Saldana | Amount Awarded: \$1,000**

This project proposed enhancing the existing campus walking trail by adding more directional signage to the trail to ensure campus users can way-find more easily around the two-mile campus loop. Based on this proposal, funding was used to print additional metal directional signs (pictured at right) for 40 additional locations for placement around the trail by Facilities Services.



### Reusable Produce Bags (Farm)



**Student Applicant: Joshua Barragan | Amount Awarded: \$500**

In order to encourage sustainable/reusable produce bags at the campus Farmers Market and when picking up Campus Urban Farm produce, this proposal requested the purchasing and distribution of reusable produce bags to students. As a result, 85 produce bags were commissioned and distributed to students throughout the summer of 2023 as part of a weekly free produce distribution by Basic Needs and the Office of Sustainability. Students were asked to sign a pledge promising to use the free produce bags for their future shopping needs to encourage zero waste practices.

### Toro Token Containers

**Student Applicant: Jose Avalos | Amount Awarded: \$1,000**

This application proposed providing in-need students with a reusable Toro Token container to be able to pick up leftover food when it is given away on campus. To that end, \$1,000 in Toro Token containers were purchased (200 units) for distribution to in-need students. Toro Token containers can be used as a reusable food container, but can also be exchanged indefinitely for a clean container or a portable Toro Token coin depending on their preference at either Toro Fresh or DH Sports Lounge eatery locations.

These containers have been included in the emergency housing welcome kits (previously referenced project in this report) greeting in-need students moving into temporary/emergency Housing, and the remaining quantities will be provided to Basic Needs at their physical location when ready in fall 2023 to further support utilization.



Toro Token container