

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022

22-0016

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL/VIDEO CONFERENCE  
COUNCILMEMBER PAULA BLACKMON, PRESIDING

PRESENT: [7] Blackmon, Ridley, West, \*Arnold, \*Resendez (\*\*9:17 a.m.), \*Bazaldua (\*\*9:05), Schultz

ABSENT: [0]

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. with a quorum of the committee present.

The meeting agenda, posted in accordance with Chapter 551, "OPEN MEETINGS," of the Texas Government Code, was presented.

After all business properly brought before the committee had been considered, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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Chair

ATTEST:

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City Secretary Staff

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Date Approved

The agenda is attached to the minutes of this meeting as EXHIBIT A.

The actions taken on each matter considered by the committee are attached to the minutes of this meeting as EXHIBIT B.

The briefing materials are attached to the minutes of this meeting as EXHIBIT C.

**\*Note: Members of the Committee participated in this meeting by video conference.**

**\*\* Note: Indicates arrival time after meeting called to order/reconvened.**

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022

EXHIBIT A

**RECEIVED**

2022 DEC -1 PM 4 : 56

CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TEXAS

**City of Dallas**

1500 Marilla Street,  
Council Chambers, 6th Floor  
Dallas, Texas 75201

*Public Notice*

221104

**POSTED** CITY SECRETARY



**Environment and Sustainability Committee**

**December 5, 2022**

**9:00 AM**

(For General Information and Rules of Courtesy, Please See Opposite Side.)

(La Información General Y Reglas De Cortesía Que Deben Observarse

Durante Las Asambleas Del Consejo Municipal Aparecen En El Lado Opuesto, Favor De Leerlas.)

## 2022 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE	
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b> Atkins (C), Arnold (VC), McGough, Narvaez, Resendez, West, Willis	<b>ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY</b> Blackmon(C), Ridley (VC), Arnold, Bazaldua, Resendez, Schultz, West
<b>GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT</b> Mendelsohn (C), Willis (VC), Atkins, Bazaldua, McGough, Ridley, West	<b>HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS</b> Thomas (C), Moreno (VC), Arnold, Blackmon, Mendelsohn, Ridley, Schultz
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b> McGough (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Atkins, Moreno, Resendez, Thomas, Willis	<b>QUALITY OF LIFE, ARTS, AND CULTURE</b> Bazaldua (C), West (VC), Arnold, Blackmon, Narvaez, Ridley, Thomas
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</b> Narvaez (C), Atkins (VC), Bazaldua, Mendelsohn, Moreno, Schultz, Willis	<b>WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND EQUITY</b> Schultz (C), Thomas (VC), Blackmon, McGough, Moreno, Narvaez, Resendez
<b>AD HOC JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE</b> Resendez (C), Arnold, Bazaldua, Ridley, Thomas, West, Willis	<b>AD HOC LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS</b> Atkins (C), McGough, Mendelsohn, Narvaez, Willis
<b>AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL SPORTS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION</b> Johnson (C), Atkins, Bazaldua, Blackmon, Thomas	<b>AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GENERAL INVESTIGATING &amp; ETHICS</b> Mendelsohn (C), Atkins, Blackmon, McGough, Schultz
<b>AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS</b> Willis (C), McGough, Moreno, Schultz, West	

(C) – Chair, (VC) – Vice Chair

Note: A quorum of the Dallas City Council may attend this Council Committee meeting.

## **General Information**

The Dallas City Council regularly meets on Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 6th floor, City Hall, 1500 Marilla. Council agenda meetings are broadcast live on WRR-FM radio (101.1 FM) and on Time Warner City Cable Channel 16. Briefing meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Council agenda (voting) meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Anyone wishing to speak at a meeting should sign up with the City Secretary's Office by calling (214) 670-3738 by 5:00 p.m. of the last regular business day preceding the meeting. Citizens can find out the name of their representative and their voting district by calling the City Secretary's Office.

Sign interpreters are available upon request with a 48-hour advance notice by calling (214) 670-5208 V/TDD. The City of Dallas is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. **The Council agenda is available in alternative formats upon request.**

If you have any questions about this agenda or comments or complaints about city services, call 311.

## **Rules of Courtesy**

City Council meetings bring together citizens of many varied interests and ideas. To insure fairness and orderly meetings, the Council has adopted rules of courtesy which apply to all members of the Council, administrative staff, news media, citizens and visitors. These procedures provide:

- That no one shall delay or interrupt the proceedings, or refuse to obey the orders of the presiding officer.
- All persons should refrain from private conversation, eating, drinking and smoking while in the Council Chamber.
- Posters or placards must remain outside the Council Chamber.
- No cellular phones or audible beepers allowed in Council Chamber while City Council is in session.

"Citizens and other visitors attending City Council meetings shall observe the same rules of propriety, decorum and good conduct applicable to members of the City Council. Any person making personal, impertinent, profane or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous while addressing the City Council or while

## **Información General**

El Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Dallas se reúne regularmente los miércoles en la Cámara del Ayuntamiento en el sexto piso de la Alcaldía, 1500 Marilla, a las 9 de la mañana. Las reuniones informativas se llevan a cabo el primer y tercer miércoles del mes. Estas audiencias se transmiten en vivo por la estación de radio WRR-FM 101.1 y por cablevisión en la estación *Time Warner City Cable* Canal 16. El Ayuntamiento Municipal se reúne en el segundo y cuarto miércoles del mes para tratar asuntos presentados de manera oficial en la agenda para su aprobación. Toda persona que desee hablar durante la asamblea del Ayuntamiento, debe inscribirse llamando a la Secretaría Municipal al teléfono (214) 670-3738, antes de las 5:00 pm del último día hábil anterior a la reunión. Para enterarse del nombre de su representante en el Ayuntamiento Municipal y el distrito donde usted puede votar, favor de llamar a la Secretaría Municipal.

Intérpretes para personas con impedimentos auditivos están disponibles si lo solicita con 48 horas de anticipación llamando al (214) 670-5208 (aparato auditivo V/TDD). La Ciudad de Dallas se esfuerza por cumplir con el decreto que protege a las personas con impedimentos, *Americans with Disabilities Act*. **La agenda del Ayuntamiento está disponible en formatos alternos si lo solicita.**

Si tiene preguntas sobre esta agenda, o si desea hacer comentarios o presentar quejas con respecto a servicios de la Ciudad, llame al 311.

## **Reglas de Cortesía**

Las asambleas del Ayuntamiento Municipal reúnen a ciudadanos de diversos intereses e ideologías. Para asegurar la imparcialidad y el orden durante las asambleas, el Ayuntamiento ha adoptado ciertas reglas de cortesía que aplican a todos los miembros del Ayuntamiento, al personal administrativo, personal de los medios de comunicación, a los ciudadanos, y a visitantes. Estos reglamentos establecen lo siguiente:

- Ninguna persona retrasará o interrumpirá los procedimientos, o se negará a obedecer las órdenes del oficial que preside la asamblea.
- Todas las personas deben abstenerse de entablar conversaciones, comer, beber y fumar dentro de la cámara del Ayuntamiento.
- Anuncios y pancartas deben permanecer fuera de la cámara del Ayuntamiento.
- No se permite usar teléfonos celulares o enlaces electrónicos (*paggers*) audibles en la cámara del Ayuntamiento durante audiencias del Ayuntamiento Municipal

"Los ciudadanos y visitantes presentes durante las

attending the City Council meeting shall be removed from the room if the sergeant-at-arms is so directed by the presiding officer, and the person shall be barred from further audience before the City Council during that session of the City Council. If the presiding officer fails to act, any member of the City Council may move to require enforcement of the rules, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council shall require the presiding officer to act." Section 3.3(c) of the City Council Rules of Procedure.

asambleas del Ayuntamiento Municipal deben de obedecer las mismas reglas de comportamiento, decoro y buena conducta que se aplican a los miembros del Ayuntamiento Municipal. Cualquier persona que haga comentarios impertinentes, utilice vocabulario obsceno o difamatorio, o que al dirigirse al Ayuntamiento lo haga en forma escandalosa, o si causa disturbio durante la asamblea del Ayuntamiento Municipal, será expulsada de la cámara si el oficial que este presidiendo la asamblea así lo ordena. Además, se le prohibirá continuar participando en la audiencia ante el Ayuntamiento Municipal. Si el oficial que preside la asamblea no toma acción, cualquier otro miembro del Ayuntamiento Municipal puede tomar medidas para hacer cumplir las reglas establecidas, y el voto afirmativo de la mayoría del Ayuntamiento Municipal precisara al oficial que este presidiendo la sesión a tomar acción." Según la sección 3.3 (c) de las reglas de procedimientos del Ayuntamiento.

## **Handgun Prohibition Notice for Meetings of Governmental Entities**

"Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun."

*"De acuerdo con la sección 30.06 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola oculta), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola oculta."*

"Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly."

*"De acuerdo con la sección 30.07 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola a la vista), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola a la vista."*

"Pursuant to Section 46.03, Penal Code (places weapons prohibited), a person may not carry a firearm or other weapon into any open meeting on this property."

*"De conformidad con la Sección 46.03, Código Penal (coloca armas prohibidas), una persona no puede llevar un arma de fuego u otra arma a ninguna reunión abierta en esta propiedad."*

The City Council Environment and Sustainability meeting will be held by videoconference and in the Council Chambers, 6th Floor at City Hall.

The public is encouraged to attend the meeting virtually; however, City Hall is available for those wishing to attend the meeting in person following all current pandemic-related public health protocols. The following videoconference link is available to the public to listen to the meeting and Public Affairs and Outreach will also stream the Environment and Sustainability Committee Meeting on Spectrum Cable Channel 95 and [bit.ly/cityofdallastv](https://bit.ly/cityofdallastv).

<https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/j.php?MTID=m261ce45fe404c28b1d129b8d4391e9a8>

## Call to Order

### **MINUTES**

1. 22-2826 Approval of the November 7, 2022 Committee Minutes

**Attachments:** Minutes

### **BRIEFING ITEMS**

- A. 22-2827 City of Dallas Water Conservation Program  
[Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability; Terry Lowery, Director, Dallas Water Utilities]

**Attachments:** Presentation

- B. 22-2828 Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan (CUAP) Draft  
[Rabekha Siebert, Urban Agriculture Coordinator, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability; Christian Kanlian; Jeffrey Landau, Agritecture]

**Attachments:** Presentation

- C. 22-2830 Environmental Commission Update  
[Kathryn Bazan, Chair, Environmental Commission]

### **BRIEFING MEMOS**

- D. 22-2829 Gas-powered Landscape Equipment Policy Follow-Up  
[Carlos Evans, Director; Susan Alvarez, Assistant Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

**Attachments:** Memorandum



**ADJOURNMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE**

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

1. seeking the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071]
2. deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.072]
3. deliberating a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the city if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.073]
4. deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee unless the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.074]
5. deliberating the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.076]
6. discussing or deliberating commercial or financial information that the city has received from a business prospect that the city seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the city and with which the city is conducting economic development negotiations; or deliberating the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. [Tex Govt. Code §551.087]
7. deliberating security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology, network security information, or the deployment or specific occasions for implementations of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices. [Tex Govt. Code §551.089]

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022

EXHIBIT B

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 5, 2022

Item 1: Approval of the November 7, 2022 Committee Minutes

Councilmember Schultz moved to adopt the minutes as presented.

Motion seconded by Councilmember West and unanimously adopted. (Resendez, Bazaldua absent when vote taken)

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 5, 2022

BRIEFING ITEMS

Item A: City of Dallas Water Conservation Program

The following individuals briefed the committee on the item:

- Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability;
- Terry Lowery, Director, Dallas Water Utilities; and
- Sheila Delgado, Assistant Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 5, 2022

BRIEFINGS ITEMS

Item B: Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan (CUAP) Draft

The following individuals briefed the committee on the item:

- Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability;
- Rabekha Siebert, Urban Agriculture Coordinator, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability; and
- Cal Estee, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 5, 2022

BRIEFING ITEMS

Item C: Environmental Commission Update

The following individual briefed the committee on the item:

- Kathryn Bazan, Chair, Environmental Commission

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 5, 2022

BRIEFING MEMOS

Item D: Gas-powered Landscape Equipment Policy Follow-Up

The committee discussed the item.



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022

EXHIBIT C

# City of Dallas Water Conservation Program

Environment and Sustainability  
Committee  
December 5, 2022



**City of Dallas**

Carlos Evans, Director  
Office of Environmental Quality and  
Sustainability

Terry S. Lowery, Director  
Dallas Water Utilities

# Purpose of Briefing



- Provide background on Dallas' Water Conservation Program
- Provide overview of current program initiatives
- Provide schedule update to Water Conservation Strategic Plan





# Background

A drop of water is worth more than a sack of gold to a thirsty man



# Long Range Water Supply Planning



- The drought of record occurring in the 1950's resulted in the 1959 Long Range Water Supply Plan (LRWSP) ushering in the current era of long range water supply planning
- Water Conservation was identified as a water management strategy in the 1989 LRWSP
  - "The water conservation program is an important element in the planning process, and if followed by the public, results in delayed expenditures for future infrastructure development." - 1989 LRWSP
- The 2014 LRWSP identified savings from Water Conservation in addition to plumbing code reductions as 10.9 MGD in 2020 and 46.4 MGD in 2070



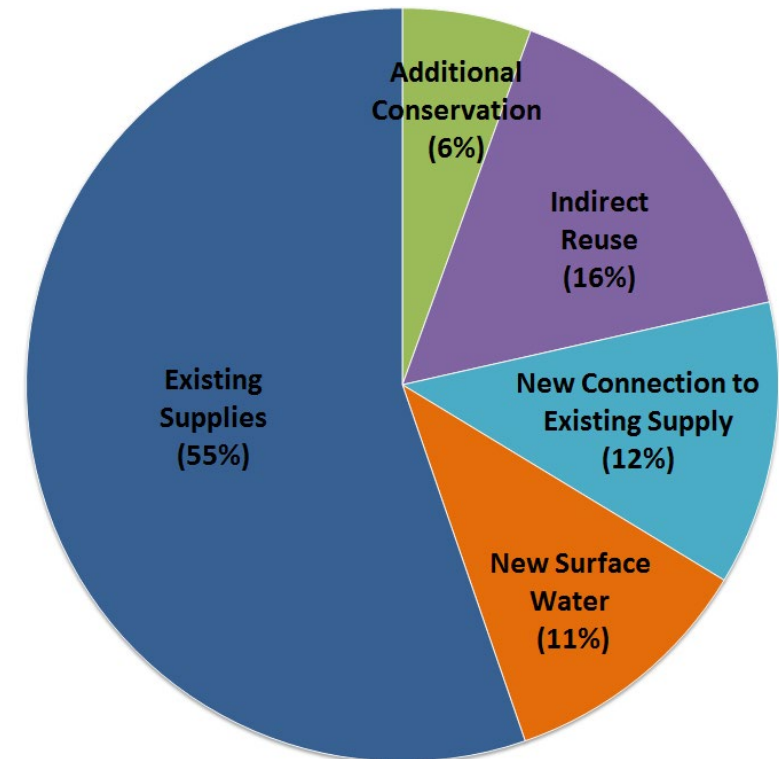
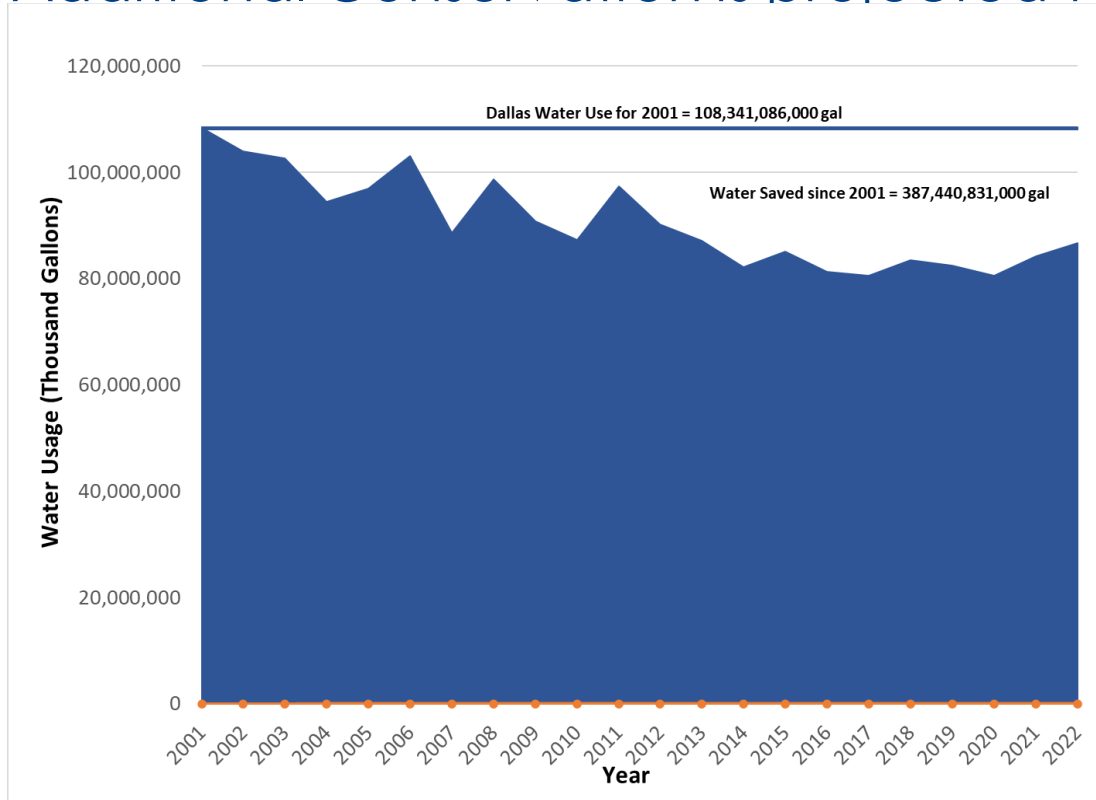
Forney Dam at Lake Ray Hubbard  
Tainter Gates



# Water Management Strategies



- Water Conservation has saved over 387 billion gallons since 2001 (an average of 50 MGD) based on 2001 usage
- Additional Conservation is projected to be 6% of 2070 supply per 2014 LRWSP



Conservation Savings

Projected 2070 Water Supply



# History of Dallas' Water Conservation Program



**1981:**

Dallas began adding bill inserts to encourage customers to conserve water



**1987:**

Plumbing retrofit program begins with low flow shower heads and toilet dams



**2001:**

Dallas City Council amended ordinance to include conservation water rates and prohibition of landscape water waste including time of day watering and the requirement of rain and freeze sensors.. Water Conservation Division created



**2006:**

Water Conservation Mascot DEW joins the Water Conservation Team and augmented existing school education programs with an Environmental Education Initiative (EEI)



**2010:**

EPA spotlighted Dallas' "Great Dallas Fix a Leak Roundup"



**2019:**

NTMWD joins regional media campaign with DWU and TRWD

Dallas' Approved Water Conservation Plan submitted to TCEQ, Previous submittals include 2014, 2009 and 2005



**North Texas Municipal Water District**



**1984:**

School education and media relations campaign



**1993:**

Water-wise demonstration garden at White Rock Pump Station

**2005:**

Dallas City Council adopts a Water Conservation Five-Year Strategic Plan to further reduce peak demands and curb water waste. Subsequent plans in 2010 and 2015

Annual Water Wise Landscape Tour begins

Proactive leak detection and repair begins



**2009:**

DWU and TRWD partner on regional media campaign to minimize the potential for customer confusion by providing uniform water conservation messages to the entire media market



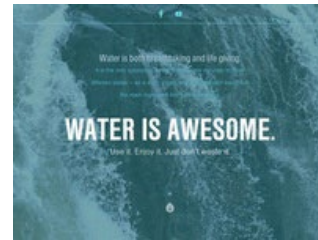
**2011:**

Water Conservation Hospitality Industry Program to encourage hotels/motels and restaurants to expand efforts to save water



**2012:**

Irrigation Ordinance amended to include mandatory twice weekly maximum schedule



**2021:**

New Water Is Awesome regional campaign launched



# Recognition/Awards



- Wyland Foundation National Mayor's Challenge
  - Won Challenge for Water Conservation in 2017, 2018, 2020, and 2021
  - Named most "Water Wise" large city in the United States
- 2009 entered into WaterSense® Partnership with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- 2010 EPA WaterSense® Program selects "The Great Dallas Fix a Leak Roundup" to spotlight national Fix a Leak Week
- 2014 Texas AWWA – Section Conservation Award, Large Utility
- 2014 North Texas Recycling Leadership Awards – Finalist: Public Education and Outreach
- 2016 Texas Environmental Excellence Award – Water Conservation
- 2017 Green Awards, Celebrating Efforts to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle – Honorable Mention: Excellence in Environmental Education
- Texas Water Conservation Scorecard
  - 2016 - Score 65
  - 2020 - Score 75, Ranked in the top 7 utilities in the Large and Medium Size Retail Water Utilities
- 2022 Watermark Award for Communication Excellence for "Water is Awesome" Regional Water Conservation Campaign







# Current Program Initiatives

Save Water. Nothing Can Replace It!



# Benefits of Water Conservation



- Reduces overall water consumption delaying the need to develop new expensive water supplies
- Extends the life of existing water infrastructure
- Reduces peak water demands and base capacity of the water system
- Lowers capital and operating costs of the existing water system



# Achieving Water Conservation Goals



- Programs to reshape behaviors
  - Public education and outreach
  - Rebate and incentive programs
- Programs impacting structural changes
  - Water loss/leak detection
  - Main replacement program
  - Toilet replacement programs
  - ICI and irrigation audit programs



# Water Conservation Irrigation Ordinance



- Mandatory Irrigation Efficiency Scheduling
  - 2001 - Irrigation prohibited between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from April 1st to October 31st
  - 2012 - Maximum Twice Weekly Watering Schedule
- Prohibited Reckless Irrigation Behaviors:
  - Watering with broken, misaligned or missing heads
  - Watering causing excessive runoff
  - Watering impervious surfaces (sidewalks, streets, etc.)
  - Watering during precipitation or freezing temperatures
  - Rain/freeze sensors required on all automatic systems
- Enhanced Enforcement

CITY OF DALLAS MAXIMUM TWICE-WEEKLY

## WATERING SCHEDULE

**TIME-OF-DAY WATERING RESTRICTION CURRENTLY IN EFFECT!**  
Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems is strictly prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from April 1st - October 31st.

Last Digit of Address	Watering Days Allowed
0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 (even numbers)	Sunday & Thursdays
1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 (odd numbers)	Saturdays & Wednesdays
No address numbers	Sundays & Thursdays



# Public Education and Outreach



- Public Awareness Campaign
  - Regional Campaign with TRWD and NTMWD – ‘Water Is Awesome’ [www.WaterIsAwesome.com](http://www.WaterIsAwesome.com)
  - Local Campaign- ‘Save Water. Nothing Can Replace It’ [www.SaveDallasWater.com](http://www.SaveDallasWater.com)
- Environmental Education Initiative K-12
  - 17,545 students reached in FY2022
- Water-Wise Landscape Tour
  - Currently in its 28th year
- Water-Wise Seminars Year-Round
- Water bill Inserts and brochures
- Drinking Water Week Art Contest



# Regional Campaign



- Partners
  - City of Dallas
  - Tarrant Regional Water District
  - North Texas Municipal Water District
- Regional Campaign Agreement renewal Summer 2024



[www.WaterIsAwesome.com](http://www.WaterIsAwesome.com)



# Rebate and Incentives



- Toilet Voucher and Rebate Program
  - Low Flow Toilet Service Contract renewal tentatively scheduled for January 2023
- Free Irrigation Audits
- Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) Surveys and Rebates
  - ICI Contract renewal tentatively scheduled for January 2023
- Minor Plumbing Repair Program

## Fiscal Year 2021-22

	<p>New Throne for Your Home</p> <p><b>1,086</b></p> <p>Low Flow Toilets Provided</p>
	<p>Free Irrigation System Evaluation</p> <p><b>455</b></p> <p>Check-ups Performed</p>
	<p>ICI Surveys</p> <p><b>12*</b></p> <p>Performed</p>
	<p>Minor Plumbing Repair Program</p> <p><b>369</b></p> <p>Households Served</p>



\*includes 77 buildings

# Leading by Example



## City Leadership and Commitment Grant Program

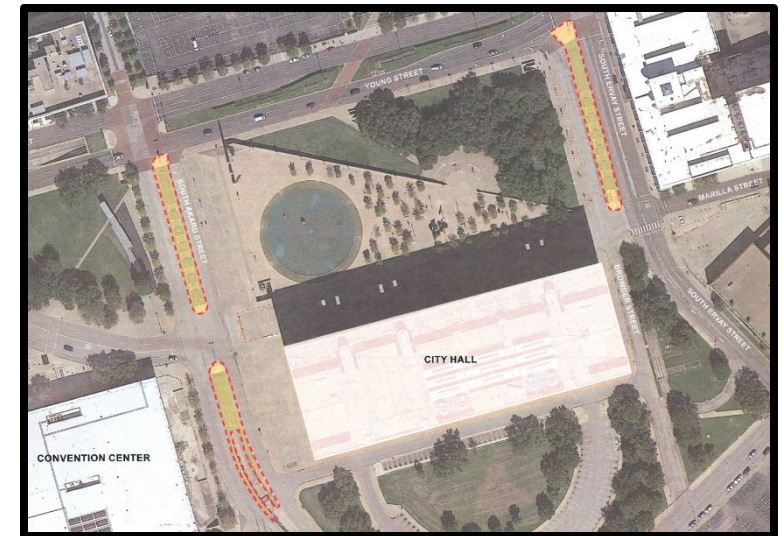
- Provides funds to City Departments for water saving initiatives



South Dallas/Fair Park  
Community conservation  
and beautification Project



Fire Training Center closed  
loop pump simulator



Dallas City Hall Medians  
Phase 2





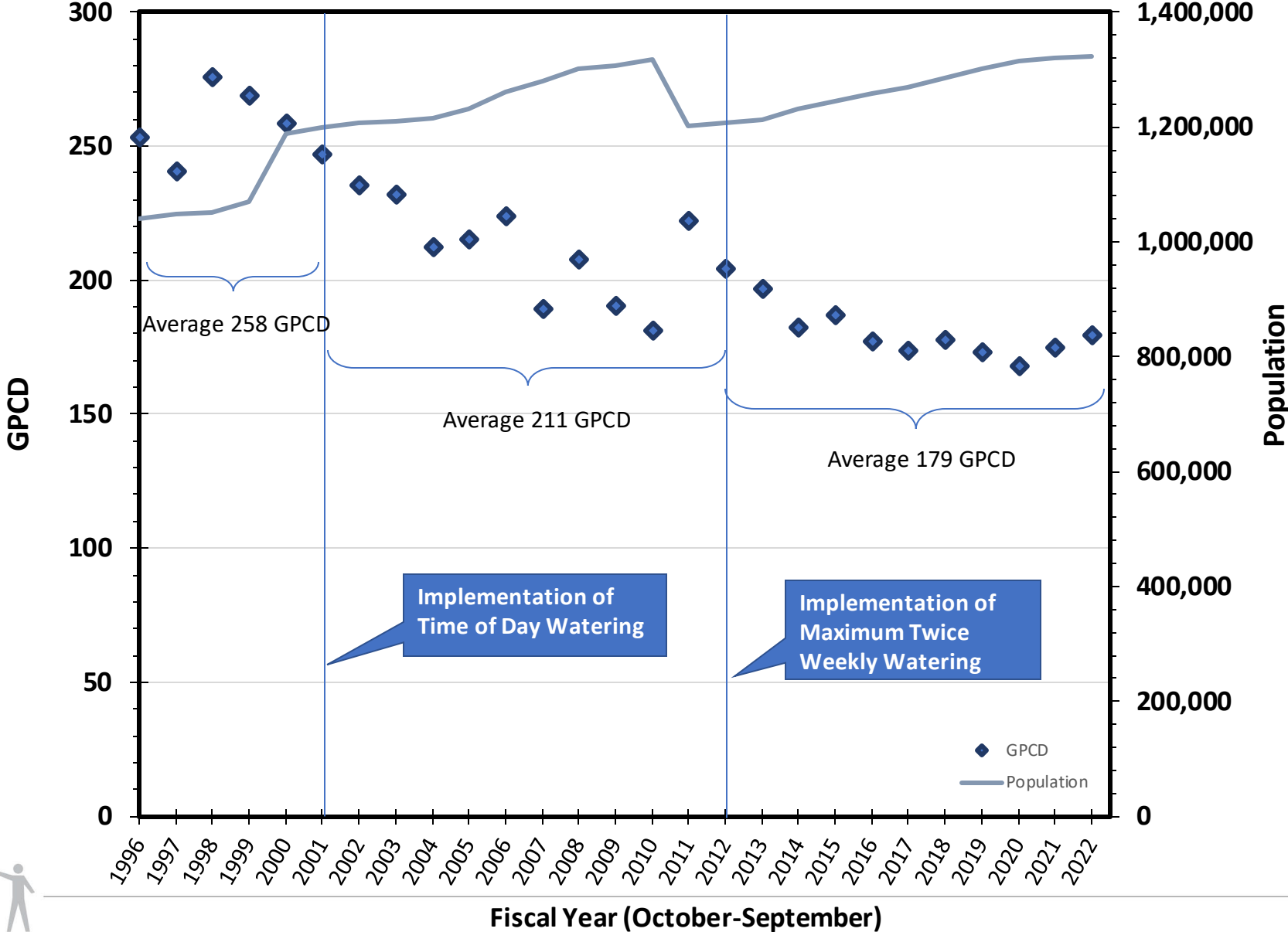
# Water Distribution System Enhancements



- Pipeline Replacement Program
- Leak Detection and Repair
- Universal Metering
- Meter Testing and Replacement



# Impacts of Water Conservation Program





# Water Conservation Strategic Plan

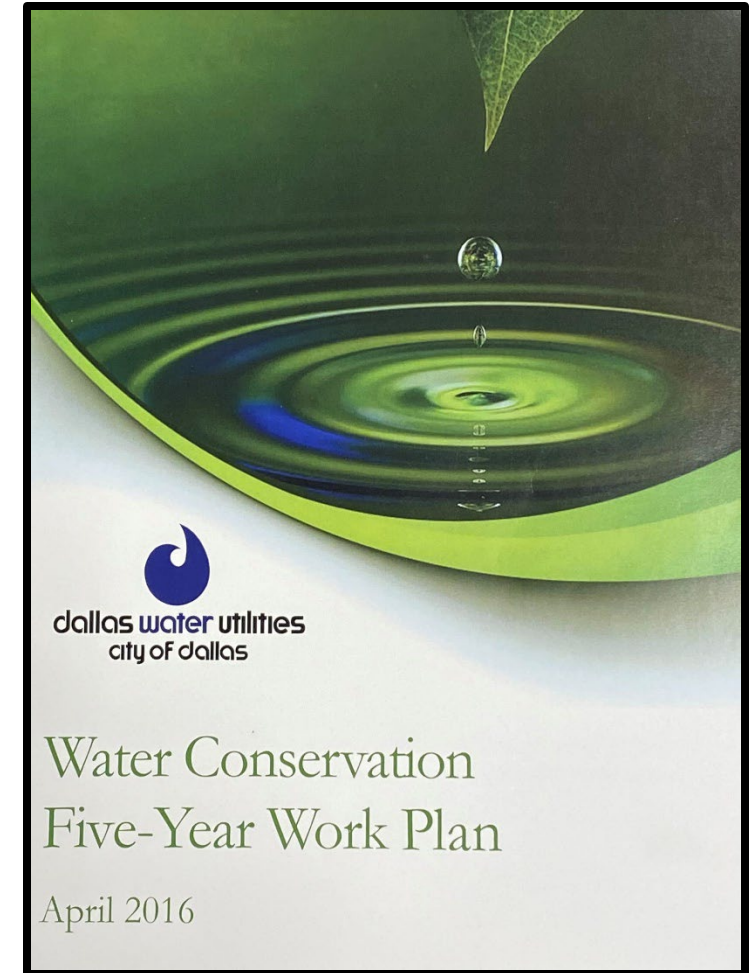
Water Is Awesome  
Use It. Enjoy It. Just Don't Waste It.



# Water Conservation Strategic Plan



- Included as part of the LRWSP Contract approved by the City Council on November 9, 2022
- Work Plan to include:
  - Water use profile
  - Current programs and progress
  - Wholesale Customer efforts
  - Cost Benefit Analysis of Potential Strategies
  - Recommended future programs and goals
- The Strategic Plan is the basis for Dallas five and ten year Water Conservation goals used in the State required Water Conservation Plan
- Scheduled for completion - August 2023
- City Council to Adopt Strategies - September 2023



# 2024 Water Conservation Plan



- State required Water Conservation Plan – this is required by the state every five years in 30 TAC 288 and is very prescriptive
- The current Water Conservation Plan is 2019 and the next one is due May 1, 2024
- The water conservation initiatives and five and ten year conservation goals will be developed in the Water Conservation Strategic Plan
- City Council to approve Water Conservation Plan in April 2024



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CCBY-NC](#)



# Summary



Date	Action
January – February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low Flow Toilet Service Contract renewal</li></ul>
September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City Council adoption of Water Conservation Strategic Plan</li></ul>
April – May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• April - City Council adoption of State Required Water Conservation Plan</li><li>• May – Water Conservation Plan due to TCEQ</li></ul>
Summer 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional campaign agreement renewal</li></ul>



# City of Dallas Water Conservation Program

Environment and Sustainability  
Committee  
December 5, 2022



**City of Dallas**

Carlos Evans, Director  
Office of Environmental Quality and  
Sustainability

Terry S. Lowery, Director  
Dallas Water Utilities

# **Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan (CUAP) Draft**

**Environment &  
Sustainability Committee  
December 5, 2022**



**City of Dallas**

Rabekha Siebert  
Urban Agriculture Coordinator  
Office of Environmental Quality &  
Sustainability



# Presentation Overview



- Background/History
- Purpose
- Outreach & Engagement
- Project Findings
- Plan Recommendations
- Staff Recommendation



# Background/ History



- Initiated Community Garden planning with EPA “Local Foods, Local Places” grant in 2016.
- Program fallow for several years.
- Food Access identified as a critical sector within the Resilient Dallas Plan in 2018.
- Urban Agriculture Manager identified in 2019.
- “Healthy Local Foods” identified as critical to local climate planning in 2020.



# Background/ History (Continued)



## IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON DALLAS



# Background – Food Deserts/ Supply Chain



## Dallas Food Deserts



The USDA defines food deserts as: *parts of the country vapid of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthful whole foods, usually found in impoverished areas. This is largely due to a lack of grocery stores, farmers' markets, and healthy food providers.*

▼ Low Income (LI) & Low Access (LA) Layers

■ LI and LA at 1 and 10 miles

Low-income census tracts where a significant number or share of residents is more than 1 mile (urban) or 10 miles (rural) from the nearest supermarket

Source: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx>



# Purpose: Set path towards CECAP Goals



*All Dallas communities have access to healthy, local food:*

- Build capacity & partnerships.
- Improve access in food deserts through effective partnerships.
- Reduce distance from farm-to-table.
- Prepare the food system to be more resilient to extreme weather events.
- Prevent food waste through donations, recovery, diversion and composting.





# What do we mean by “Urban Ag”?

**"Urban agriculture generally refers to the cultivation, processing and distribution of agricultural products in urban and suburban settings, including things like:**



- Vertical production
- Warehouse farms
- Community gardens
- Rooftop farms
- Hydroponic
- Aeroponic
- Aquaponic facilities
- Other innovations.



**Urban farmers and gardeners work among diverse populations to expand access to nutritious foods, foster community engagement, provide jobs, educate communities about farming, and expand green spaces."**

- *USDA. Farmers.gov*



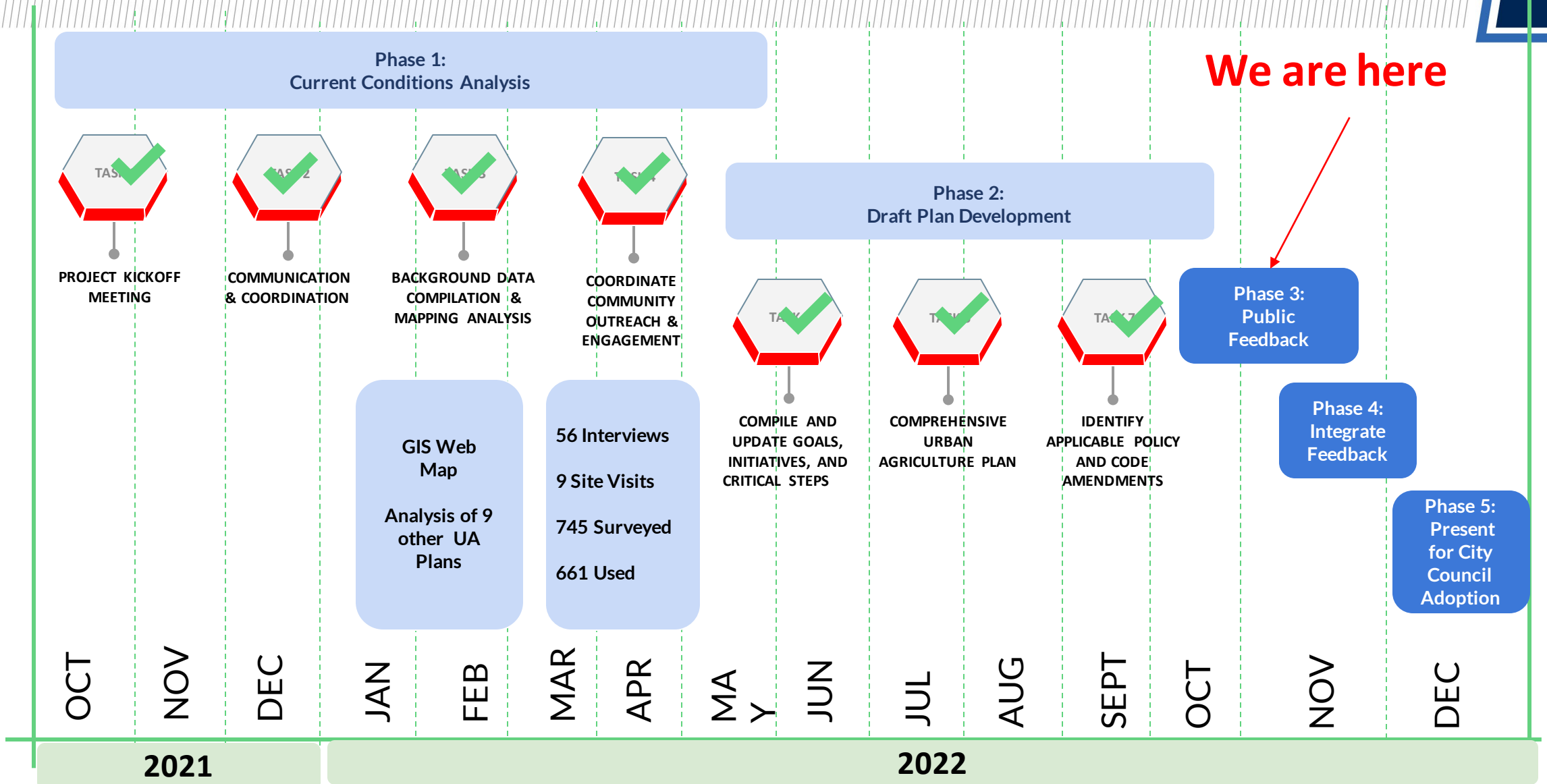
# PROJECT SCOPE & TIMELINE



PROJECT KICKOFF

PROJECT COMPLETE

We are here



# CUAP Advisory Groups

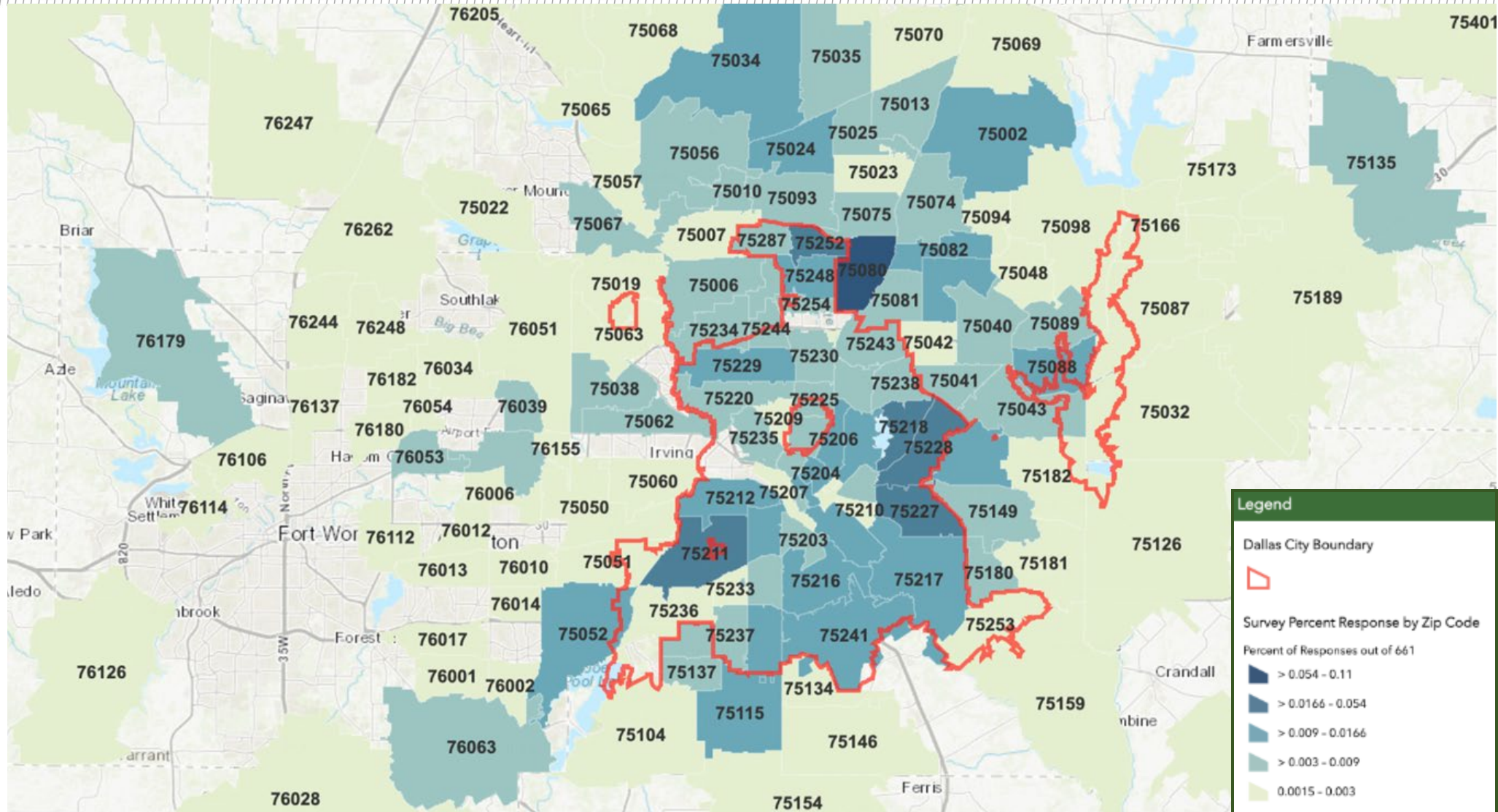


- **Urban Agriculture Advisory Council:** DFW Growers, Markets, Restaurant Associations, grocers, produce brokers, non-profits
- **Food Innovation Working Group** – City of Dallas Office of Community Care, Economic Development, Libraries, Convention Center, OEQS, Sanitation Services and Code Compliance
- **Regional Food Policy Alliance – UTA/RCE:** Universities, Dallas college, HBCUs, non-profits, public health, grocers, restaurants, etc.
- **Sustainable Food Center** (Austin, TX) Statewide program coordination

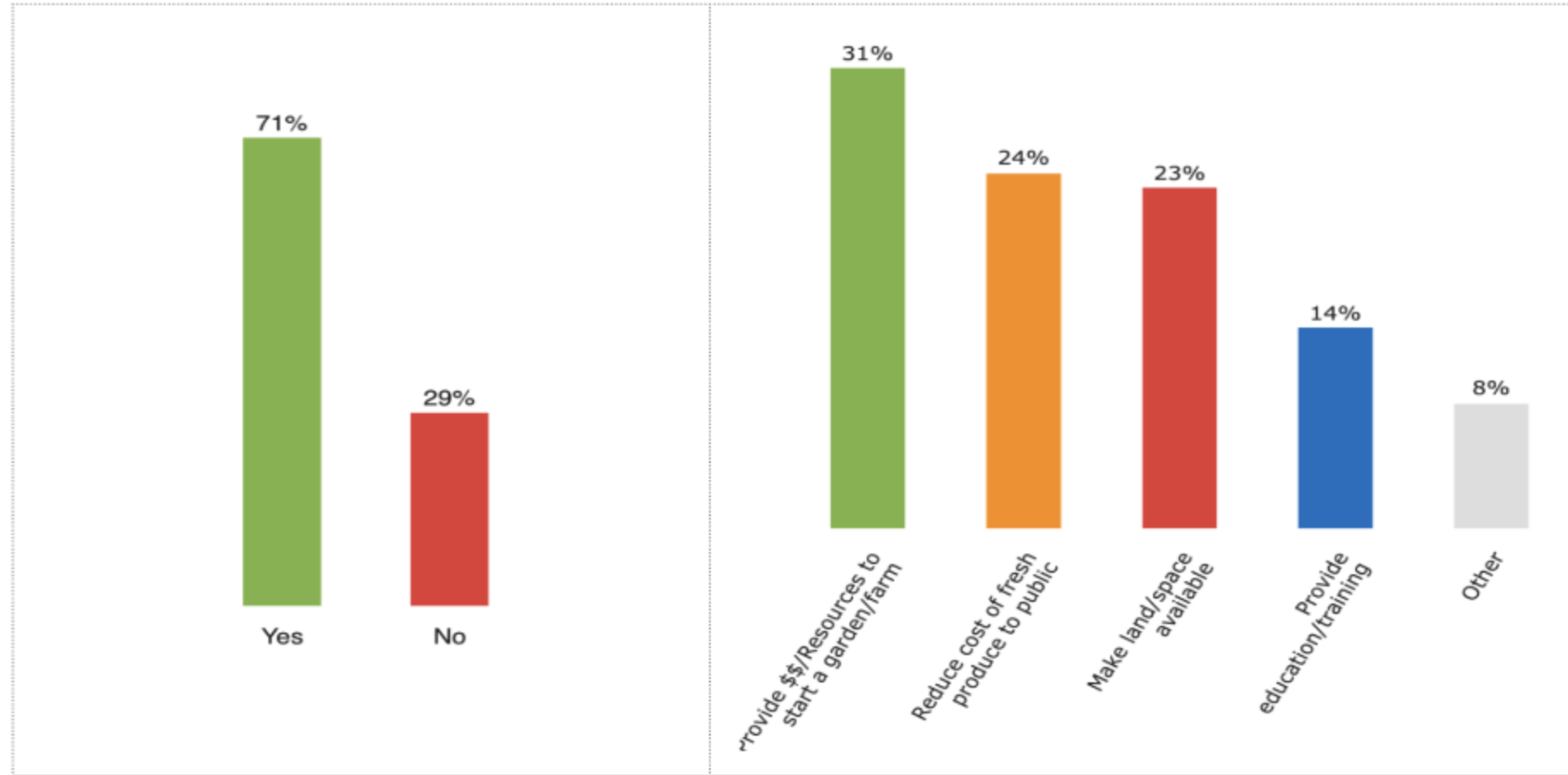




# Outreach & Engagement



# Initial Feedback – Community Feedback



**FIGURE 9: % OF DALLAS RESIDENTS SURVEYED INTERESTED (OR NOT) IN VOLUNTEERING, LEARNING OR WORKING IN GARDENING OR FARMING**

**FIGURE 10: HOW DALLAS RESIDENTS SURVEYED FEEL THE CITY CAN BEST SUPPORT URBAN AGRICULTURE**



# Initial Feedback – Community Concerns



- The siloed or competitive nature of stakeholders;
- Lack of transparency around costs and allocation of related City resources;
- The need to make the plan actionable and assign responsibility for continuity and follow through;
- Limitations re: plan efficacy if action items are not supported with interrelated factors (i.e. job development, education, utility use, infrastructure).



# Data Compilation & Tools

## ESTIMATED PRODUCTIVE ACRES



16.78

Productive Acres are estimated by satellite imagery

City of Dallas Urban Agriculture and Community Health Explorer A project in collaboration with AGRITECTURE

Find address or place

Legend

- City Owned Parcels with High UA Potential
- HUD Public Housing Developments
- Farmers Market Stands
- Urban Agriculture Sites
  - Estimated Productive Acres
    - > 0.7 - 2.07
    - > 0.34 - 0.7
    - 0 - 0.34
- UAPA Tracts Tier 1
- UAPA Tracts Tier 2

About this App

Welcome to the Urban Agriculture and Community Health Explorer for the City of Dallas (COD)!

The purpose of this map application is to assist COD stakeholders to explore, identify, edit, and add urban agriculture (UA) projects in Dallas.

2mi

-97.047 32.716 Degrees

esri







## RECOMMENDATION 1.

# Reduce regulatory barriers to urban agriculture.

- 1) Update Development Code as necessary to reduce current regulatory barriers to urban agriculture.
- 2) Update Certificate of Occupancy (CO) / Permitting Process (Plat map, water meters, etc. to reduce barriers to entry for US producers.
- 3) Identify and establish incentives for developers to include Urban Agriculture opportunities into new development.





RECOMMENDATION 2.

**Support land access for current and future urban agriculture entities.**

- 1) Visualize COD UA Landscape in geographic context, framed by equity.
- 2) Co-Design Approach: Co-design Urban Agriculture zoning and land use with UA practitioners and residents.
- 3) Tree Top - Down Approach: Establish process for making high-potential City-owned lots available for UA Projects.
- 4) Roots Up Approach: Match-making model for connecting aspiring farmers and private landowners.





RECOMMENDATION 3.

# Facilitate collaboration among urban agriculture stakeholders.

- 1) Formalize and maintain a Food Advisory Council, or similar group to represent a range of UA stakeholders.
- 2) Organize and host UA events focused on knowledge sharing, resources and networking for UA stakeholders.







RECOMMENDATION 4.

# Build market opportunities for urban producers.

- 1) Reduce barriers to operating farmers markets.
- 2) Seek funding for nutrition assistance programs to increase purchase power of low-income consumers.
- 3) Initiate or partner with a “Buy Local” Campaign with consumer-facing, business-facing and internal COD agency-facing elements.
- 4) Facilitate connections between Dallas area producers and interested wholesale buyers such as restaurants, retailers and institutions





**RECOMMENDATION 5.**

**Provide Urban  
Agriculture  
education,  
resources, and  
support to City of  
Dallas residents.**

- 1) Develop UA Resource page(s) to support both commercial and community UA.
- 2) Develop a cohesive UA Education strategy and implement it in relevant community programs.
- 3) Increase UA internship and traineeship workforce development opportunities in Dallas.



RECOMMENDATIONS		Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>1</b>	<b>Reduce regulatory barriers for urban agriculture entities.</b>	<b>PLAN IMPLEMENTATION</b>																			
Solution 1	Update The Dallas Development Code per recommendations noted in Appendix A to reduce the regulatory barriers in the urban agriculture landscape.																				
Solution 2	Update the Certificate of Occupancy (CO)/Permitting Process to lower the barriers to entry for UA producers																				
Solution 3	Identify and establish incentives for developers to include Urban Agriculture within new developments. Evaluate synergies with other city initiatives to increase functional green and permeable surfaces within new and existing developments.																				
<b>2</b>	<b>Support land access for current and future urban agriculture entities.</b>																				
Solution 1	Visualize the COD UA landscape in geographic context, framed with equity. Develop a GIS web app that displays high-potential UA parcels in Dallas (highlighting City-owned sites), and overlays public and private databases of community health determinants.	[Orange]																			
Solution 2	Co-Design Approach: Co-design Urban Agriculture Zoning and Land Use educational events/materials with UA practitioners and residents. These educational events and materials shall focus on the types of lots available for UA activities.			[Orange]																	
Solution 3	Tree Tops Down Approach: Establish a process for making high-potential city-owned vacant lots available for urban ag projects.					[Orange]				[Orange]											
Solution 4	Roots Up Approach: Match-making model for connecting aspiring farmers and private landowners.									[Orange]											
<b>3</b>	<b>Facilitate collaboration among urban agriculture stakeholders.</b>																				
Solution 1	Formalize and maintain a Food Advisory Council that represents a range of UA stakeholders in the City of Dallas.	[Yellow]																			
Solution 2	Organize and host UA events focused on knowledge sharing, resources and networking for UA stakeholders.	[Yellow]																			
<b>4</b>	<b>Build market opportunities for urban producers.</b>																				
Solution 1	Reduce barriers to operating farmers markets	[Green]																			
Solution 2	Seek funding for nutrition assistance programs to increase purchasing power of low-income consumers					[Green]															
Solution 3	Initiate or Partner with a "Buy Local" campaign with consumer-facing, business-facing, and internal COD Agency-facing elements					[Green]															
Solution 4	Facilitate connections between Dallas area producers and interested wholesale buyers such as restaurants, retailers, and institutions.					[Green]															
<b>5</b>	<b>Provide Urban Agriculture education, resources, and support to City of Dallas residents</b>																				
Solution 1	<b>UA Resource Page</b> - Create clear, accessible documents that educate City of Dallas residents about relevant regulations and resources for starting and operating both commercial and community UA.	[Blue]								[Blue]								[Blue]			
Solution 2	<b>UA Education</b> - Develop a cohesive UA education strategy and implement it in relevant community programs					[Blue]				[Blue]											
Solution 3	<b>UA Workforce Development</b> - Increase internship and traineeship opportunities in urban agriculture in Dallas																				

# Immediate Next Steps



- Request Recommendation for Adoption from Environmental Commission
- Soliciting Ongoing Feedback from Public
- Present to City Council Environment & Sustainability Committee
- Update plan based on Public Feedback
- Present to City Council





Questions?



**City of Dallas**

# **Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan (CUAP) Draft**

**Environment &  
Sustainability Committee  
December 5, 2022**

Rabekha Siebert  
Urban Agriculture Coordinator  
Office of Environmental Quality &  
Sustainability

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 5, 2022

TO Honorable Chair Blackmon and Members of the Environment and Sustainability Committee

SUBJECT **Follow-Up on Landscape Equipment Transition Efforts**

This memorandum provides an update to the Dallas City Council to follow up on recommendations concerning Gas-powered Landscape Equipment Policy made to the Dallas Environment and Sustainability City Council Committee (ENVS) on August 15, 2022 ([link here](#)), and on November 7, 2022 ([link here](#)).

In response to a request by Chair Blackmon, staff is providing this follow-up memorandum to outline the approach to recommendations made by the ENVS Committee while considering the Environmental Commission recommendations that can be found [here](#).

This approach is built upon the prior work regarding gas-powered landscape equipment policy and towards bringing forward a detailed transition plan for consideration as part of the June 5, 2023 ENVS Committee agenda, towards full transition to battery/electric powered landscape equipment occurring by the year 2027. In developing this updated approach and timeline, staff met with relevant departments, manufacturers, landscape professionals, a landscape association, and community members on this issue. The next steps to be performed within the next 6 months are:

- **Landscape Equipment Transition Support Contract:** Staff has contracted with Modern Geosciences, which has been selected by OEQS as the most qualified firm to provide air quality and air monitoring services through the general non-engineering environmental services master agreement, completed the most recent City greenhouse gas inventory, is familiar with multiple City Departments, is familiar with multiple modeling programs, and has demonstrated a continued ability to work across multiple areas needed to embark on a successful data analysis and community outreach campaign. Support services provided by Modern Geosciences and any necessary subcontractors will include, but are not limited to: working with community stakeholders, developing and implementing an appropriate survey to attain community concerns and support; developing a full City-equipment inventory; developing an estimate of the number of affected commercial and residential landscapers in Dallas, researching related codes and ordinances from other cities, and developing a program of appropriate incentives, with estimated budget implications.
- **Outreach & Engagement:** OEQS will work with the COM Department to create graphics and solicit social and traditional media programming contracts to support public messaging about the “Why” for implementing this transition. It is anticipated that the public awareness campaign will initiate in February after the holiday season, but before spring lawn season.

DATE December 5, 2022

SUBJECT **Landscape Equipment Transition Efforts**

- **City Equipment Transition:** Work with relevant departments to procure professional grade battery-electric equipment and charging equipment so that approximately 20 percent of City equipment is transitioned by the end of calendar year 2023. A mid-year budget appropriation may be requested to support program implementation. Data is still being collected regarding a cost estimate for this transition.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Convene a working group of the Texas Landscape & Nursery Association, The Texas Construction Association, the Black Contractors Association, Hispanic Contractors Association, and others to attain input as the transition plan is developed.
- **City Department Engagement:** OEQS will continue working with departments affected by such a transition to identify equipment and related budgetary impacts associated with this transition.
- **ENVS Committee / Park Board / Environmental Commission / Environmental Health Committee / WEE Committee Coordination:** OEQS will continue to engage the ENVS Committee on this matter, including planned monthly briefings to the committee until the committee votes on a plan or the committee provides an alternative briefing strategy. OEQS will continue to ensure that the Park Board, the Environmental Commission, the Environmental Health Committee, and the Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee are apprised of findings towards the draft landscape equipment transition plan. Staff anticipates providing the draft plan to these entities for review and approval prior to bringing this plan to ENVS for a vote.

OEQS looks forward to continued work with ENVS Committee and the Environmental Commission during implementation. Should you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Carlos Evans at (214) 670-1642.



Carlos Evans  
Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager  
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager  
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager  
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer  
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Directors and Assistant Directors