

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

23-0049

PARK, TRAILS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL/VIDEO CONFERENCE
COUNCILMEMBER KATHY STEWART, PRESIDING

PRESENT: [7] Stewart, Moreno (**9:07 a.m.), West, Arnold, Narvaez (**9:20 a.m.),
Bazaldua (**9:13 a.m.), *Blackmon

ABSENT: [0]

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 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 city council had been considered, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Chair

ATTEST:

City Secretary Staff

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 4, 2023

EXHIBIT A

RECEIVED

2023 NOV 30 PM 12:28

**CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS**

City of Dallas

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

Public Notice

23 1056

POSTED CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TX



Parks, Trails, and the Environment Committee

December 4, 2023

9:00 AM

2023 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Atkins (C), Narvaez (VC), Arnold, Bazaldua, Ridley, Stewart, West	GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT West (C), Blackmon (VC), Mendelsohn, Moreno, Resendez
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS Moreno (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Gracey, West, Willis	PARKS, TRAILS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT Stewart (C), Moreno (VC), Arnold, Bazaldua, Blackmon, Narvaez, West
PUBLIC SAFETY Mendelsohn (C), Stewart (VC), Atkins, Moreno, Willis	QUALITY OF LIFE, ARTS, AND CULTURE Bazaldua (C), Resendez (VC), Blackmon, Gracey, Ridley, Schultz, Willis
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE Narvaez (C), Gracey (VC), Atkins, Mendelsohn, Resendez, Schultz, Stewart	WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND EQUITY Schultz (C), Arnold (VC), Bazaldua, Blackmon, Resendez, Ridley, Willis
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS Atkins (C), Mendelsohn, Moreno,	AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GENERAL INVESTIGATING AND ETHICS Mendelsohn (C), Gracey, Johnson, Schultz, Stewart
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS Ridley (C), Resendez, West	AD HOC COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS Mendelsohn (C), Atkins, Gracey, Narvaez, Stewart
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS Atkins (C), Blackmon, Mendelsohn, Moreno, Resendez, Stewart, West, Willis	AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL SPORTS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION Gracey (C), Blackmon, Johnson, Moreno, Narvaez, Resendez, Schultz

(C) – Chair, (VC) – Vice Chair

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

General Information

The Dallas Council Committees regularly meet on Mondays beginning at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 6th floor, City Hall, 1500 Marilla. Council Committee agenda meetings are broadcast live on bit.ly/cityofdallastv and on Time Warner City Cable Channel 16.

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 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.

Información General

Los Comités del Concejo de la Ciudad de Dallas se reúnen regularmente los lunes en la Cámara del consejo en el sexto piso del Ayuntamiento, 1500 Marilla, a partir de las 9:00 a.m. y la 1:00 p.m. Las reuniones de la agenda del Comité del Consejo se transmiten en vivo por la estación de bit.ly/cityofdallastv y por cablevisión en la estación *Time Warner City Cable Canal 16*.

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 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 precisará 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."

This City Council Parks, Trails and the Environment Committee meeting will be held by video conference and in the Council Chambers, 6th Floor at City Hall.

The public may attend the meeting virtually; however, City Hall is available for those wishing to attend the meeting in person.

The Parks, Trails and the Environment Committee will be broadcast live on Spectrum Cable Channel 16 (English) and 95 (Spanish) and online at bit.ly/cityofdallastv.

The public may also listen to the meeting as an attendee at the following video conference link:

<https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/j.php?MTID=m05eed91282952d76d3a4976922dcfb15>

Call to Order

A. [23-3074](#) Approval of the November 6, 2023 Parks, Trails, and Environment
MINUTES Committee Minutes

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

BRIEFING ITEMS

B. [23-3075](#) Comprehensive Environment & Climate Action Plan (CECAP)
Annual Report
[Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability; Paul White II, Assistant Director (I), Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability; Rosaerlinda Cisneros, Climate Coordinator, Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

Attachments: [Presentation](#)
[Memorandum](#)

C. [23-3092](#) Parks Economic Value Update
[Ryan O'Conner, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation; Candace Damon, Chair of the Board, HR & A Advisors]

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

BRIEFING MEMOS

- D. [23-3076](#) Dallas Environmental Education Initiative (EEI)- Interlocal Agreement
[Mary Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager; Sheila Delgado, Assistant Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

Attachments: [Memorandum](#)

- E. [23-3079](#) Former Blue Star Site Remediation Update
[Mary Cedillo- Pereira, Assistant City Manager; Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

Attachments: [Memorandum](#)

- F. [23-3077](#) Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability 2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities
[Mary Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager; Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

Attachments: [Memorandum](#)

- G. [23-3078](#) Environmental Commission Update
[Kathryn Bazan, Chair, Environmental Commission]

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 4, 2023

EXHIBIT B

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 4, 2023

Item A: Approval of the November 6, 2023 Parks, Trails, and Environment Committee Minutes

Councilmember West moved to adopt the minutes as presented.

Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Arnold and unanimously adopted. (Moreno, Narvaez, Bazaldua absent when vote taken)

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 4, 2023

BRIEFING ITEMS

Item B: Comprehensive Environment & Climate Action Plan (CECAP) Annual Report

The following individuals briefed the committee on the item:

- Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability;
- Paul White II, Assistant Director (I), Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability;
and
- Rosaerlinda Cisneros, Climate Coordinator, Environmental Quality & Sustainability

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 4, 2023

BRIEFING ITEMS

Item C: Parks Economic Value Update

The following individuals briefed the committee on the item:

- Ryan O'Connor, Assistant Director, Park and Recreation; and
- Candace Damon, Chair of the Board, HR & A Advisors

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 4, 2023

BRIEFING MEMOS

- Item D: Dallas Environmental Education Initiative (EEI)- Interlocal Agreement
- Item E: Former Blue Star Site Remediation Update
- Item F: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability 2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities
- Item G: Environmental Commission Update

The committee discussed the items.

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

EXHIBIT C

CECAP Annual Report

**Parks, Trails, and the
Environment Committee
December 4, 2023**



City of Dallas

Carlos Evans, Director
Paul White II, Interim Assistant Director
Rosaerlinda Cisneros, Climate Coordinator
Office of Environmental
Quality & Sustainability

Overview



- **CECAP FY22-23 Work Plan Accomplishments**
- **CECAP FY23-24 Implementation Work Plan**
 - Part I: Introduction
 - Part II: Adaptive Management
 - Part III: FY24 Actions and Milestones
 - Part IV: Tracking and Accountability
 - Part V: Stakeholder Engagement
 - Part VI: Budget



CECAP FY22-23 Work Plan Accomplishments



COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

95% of Year 3 Work Plan Complete!

In FY22-23, the City of Dallas completed 192 of 202 milestones toward advancement of climate initiatives in 8 different sectors.



Part I: FY23-24 Implementation Work Plan



- 30-year plan with 8 focus areas and 97 Actions
- 75 Actions will be activated in FY23-24
- 212 Total milestone activities
- 18 City Departments contributing

CECAP IMPLEMENTATION WORK PLAN

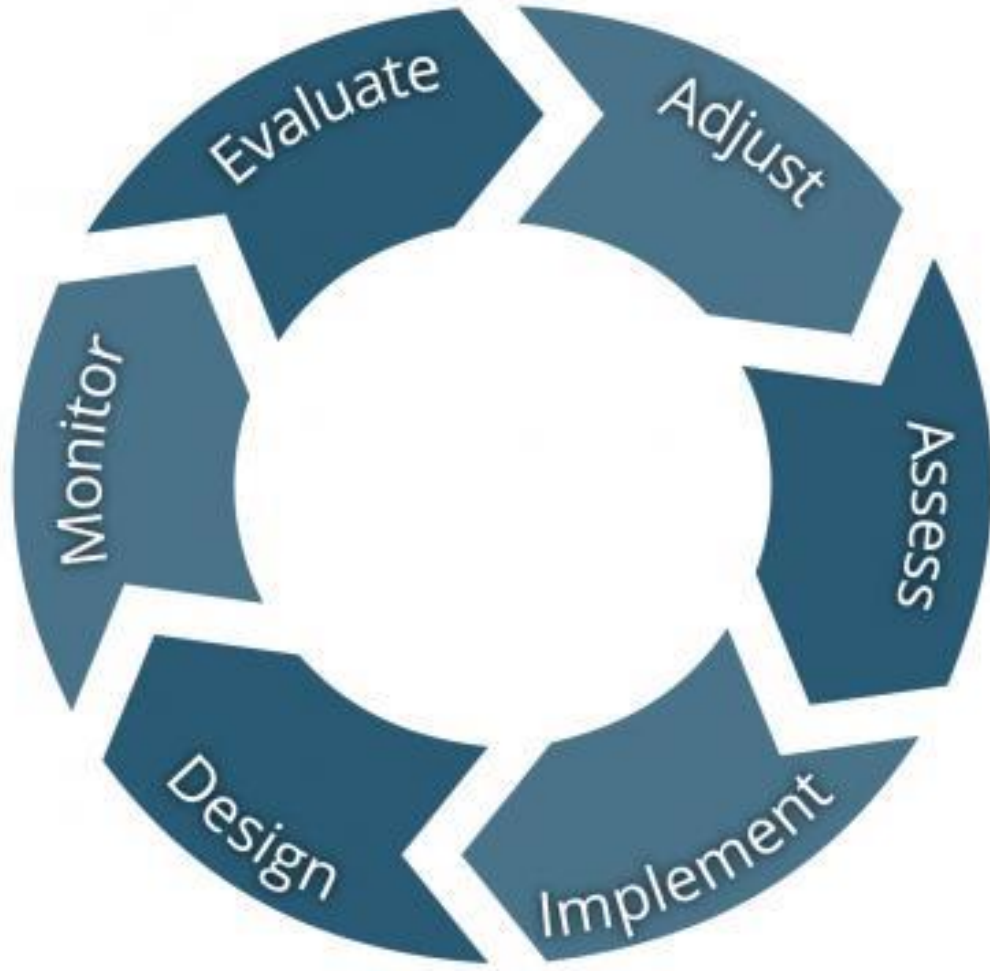
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024



**BY OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & SUSTAINABILITY
WITH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
AND LEADING ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS FORWARD**



Part II: Adaptive Management



Adaptive management practices allow an assessment of where the City currently stands, guide future planning, and identify any necessary CECAP plan updates.

OEQS climate staff updated the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory using data from 2019.

Dallas has achieved an 11% reduction from the year 2015 data referenced in the CECAP.

Despite a population growth of roughly 5% during this time, the community-wide emissions also decreased.

OEQS staff anticipates to conduct a GHG emissions inventory in FY24.



Part III: FY24 Actions and Milestones



GOAL 1: DALLAS' BUILDINGS ARE ENERGY- EFFICIENT AND CLIMATE RESILIENT.

Why it matters? Homes and places of work can be protected from the impacts of climate change through structural and operational improvements. Energy efficiency improvements to existing residential and nonresidential buildings and appliances can reduce overall emissions and utility bills. Ensuring that all new construction is built in an energy efficient way will reduce future 'carbon lock-in' in the building stock.

Total actions underway: 11
Total milestones: 25

Table 1: FY23-24 Goal 1 Buildings Actions and Milestones

Action	Dept	Milestone
B1: Demonstrate leadership in developing a carbon neutrality plan for municipal operations.		
B1	OEQS	Update OEQS Website to support greater reach for outreach and engagement (Ongoing)
B1	OEQS	Continue to work with City departments to incorporate CECAP efforts into EMS Objectives and Targets (Ongoing)
B1	OEQS	Work with BCM, Parks and BSD to update Green Building Policy to reflect current practice towards Net-Zero Carbon
B1	OEQS	Plan and hold Annual North Texas Climate Symposium
B1	OEQS	Plan and implement multi-sector, multi-media, multi-target outreach and engagement program for businesses, education, and community stakeholders

Make The Case

Sector Totals

Milestone by Dept.





Goal 1: Dallas' buildings are energy efficient and climate resilient.



Why it Matters?

- The combined building and energy sectors account for the highest percentage of GHG emissions in Dallas (64%).
- Of these, 33% is from commercial buildings including offices, restaurants and retailers; 20% from homes, and 8% from the industrial sector.
- Ensuring that all new construction is built in an energy efficient way will reduce future 'carbon lock-in' in the building stock.

Total Number of Milestones

- 25 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 11 of 16 (69%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- DEV
- AVI
- ECO
- PUD
- HOU





FY23-24 Highlights: Buildings



Key Milestones

- Host Annual North Texas Climate Symposium in partnership with the South Central Climate Resilience Forum
- Work with City departments to develop draft specifications towards carbon neutral facility construction and sustainable infrastructure for use in 2024 Bond
- Continue the Whole Home Dallas campaign to raise awareness of benefits of home weatherization upgrades





Goal 2: Dallas generates and uses renewable, reliable, and affordable energy.



Why it Matters?

- Dallas primarily relies on **electricity** that has been **generated by fossil fuels** (17% is generated from coal and 43% from natural gas).
- With an average of 234 days of sunshine per year, Dallas has the potential to take much more advantage of solar technologies.

Total Number of Milestones

- 19 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 10 of 11 (91%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- BSD
- HOU
- BCM





FY23-24 Highlights: Energy



Key Milestones

- Continue implementation of OEQS' Weatherization Proof-Of-Concept Project
- Continue Solar Siting Inventory and Evaluation Study
- Continue to evaluate potential for on-site and off-site renewable energy projects





Goal 3: Dallas' communities have access to sustainable, affordable transportation options.



Why it Matters?

- The **transportation sector**, which includes private and public vehicles, trains, and planes contributes **38% of GHG emissions** for the City of Dallas.
- The **majority (76.8%) of Dallas residents drive to work alone.**
- Dallas County fails to meet federal air quality standards which is a direct result of gasoline burning engines.

Total Number of Milestones

- 28 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 12 of 19 (63%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- PUD
- TRN
- EFM
- BCM
- DWU
- PBW





FY23-24 Highlights: Transportation



Key Milestones

- Work with regional partners to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips
- Continue implementation of Fleet Electrification Feasibility Study
- Continue construction of Fleet Infrastructure Plan by installing charging stations at various City facilities to support fleet vehicle electrification





Goal 4: Dallas is a Zero Waste community.



Why it Matters?

- **Municipal solid waste** represents a small percentage (**less than 1%**) of **GHG emissions** in Dallas. However, waste-based emissions are an **important area for local action**.
- **Extreme weather events** may lead to the unexpected need to deal with the **collection and disposal of large amounts of debris**.
- **Climate change** will impact both the **operations and infrastructure assets** in the waste sector.

Total Number of Milestones

- 20 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 7 of 9 (78%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- OAC
- CCS
- POM
- SAN
- PKR





FY23-24 Highlights: Zero Waste



Key Milestones

- Implement an Artist Residency program in Dallas recreation centers to promote CECAP goals and waste reduction
- Facilitate zero waste education classes for homeowners
- Implement a pilot for responsible waste management at special events





Goal 5: Dallas protects its water resources and its communities from flooding and drought.



Why it Matters?

- The **water and wastewater** sectors together contribute to **less than 1% of Dallas' GHG emissions**; however, access to clean water is foundational to **public health and quality of life**.
- Between **2020 and 2070**, Dallas' **existing water reserves** are **expected to decrease** due to sedimentation and increased evaporation of reservoirs.

Total Number of Milestones

- 47 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 13 of 15 (87%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- DWU





FY23-24 Highlights: Water Resources



Key Milestones

- Continue City Leadership and Commitment Grant Program to support green infrastructure
- Continue the “Save Water. Nothing Can Replace It” local public awareness campaign
- Continue to offer free automatic irrigation system evaluations and promote best management practices on outdoor watering





Goal 6: Dallas protects and enhances its ecosystems, trees, and green spaces that in turn improve public health.



Why it Matters?

- In Dallas, there are 388 parks totaling **27,038 acres**, plus the roughly 6000-acre Great Trinity Forest. These **green spaces are not evenly distributed** and **only 60% of Dallas residents have access to a park** within a half-mile walk of their homes.
- Open spaces including parks, urban forests, and prairies **can deliver multiple benefits** including reducing the urban heat island effect, sequestering carbon, and managing flooding.

Total Number of Milestones

- 41 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 7 of 9 (78%)

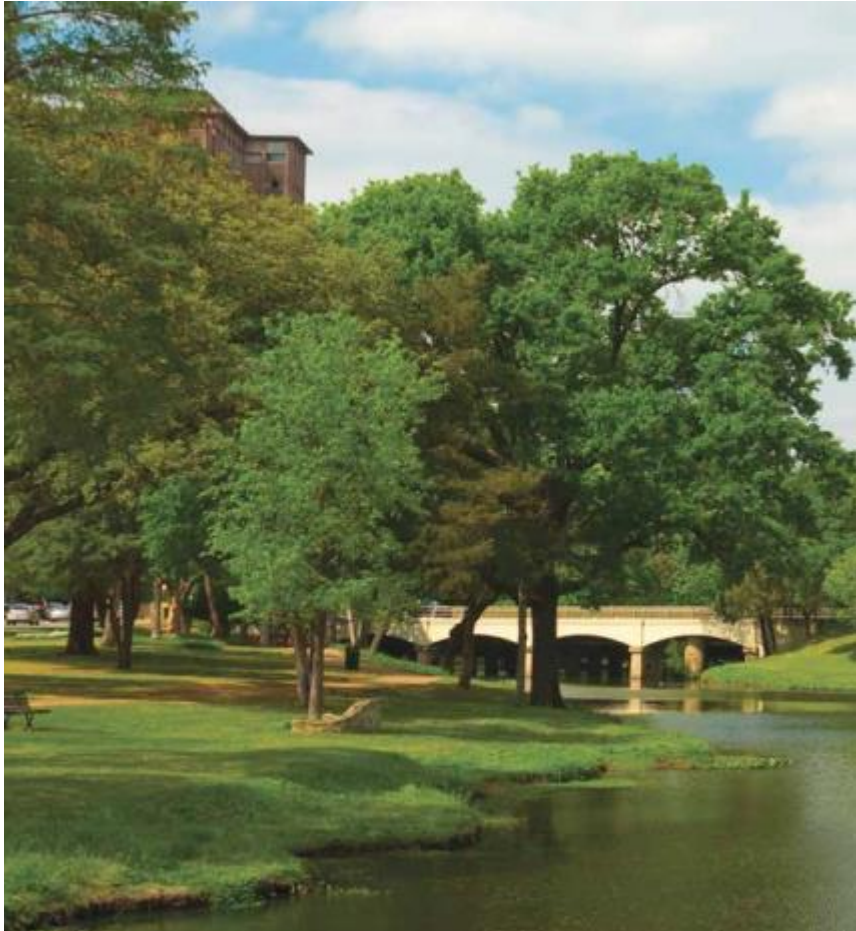
Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- PKR
- DWU
- PBW
- DEV
- PUD





FY23-24 Highlights: Ecosystems & Green Space



Key Milestones

- Citywide Tree Task force (DWU, Parks and Rec, Public Works, and Development Services) will continue to collaborate and meet with stakeholders, community members, and businesses to provide outreach about tree knowledge and urban forest education
- Utilize the 2023 NOAA-Dallas Urban Heat Island Mapping data to guide equitable efforts to evaluate cooling solutions in Dallas communities and identify hotspots
- Explore feasibility to conduct a supplemental Dallas Urban Heat Island Mapping study in areas not included in the 2023 NOAA-Dallas Study





Goal 7: All Dallas' communities have access to healthy, local food.



Why it Matters?

- **Access to healthy food for vulnerable communities** in southern and western Dallas is a significant challenge—**36% of Dallas' residents live** in census tracts defined as **food deserts**.
- Food production, distribution and land use accounts for **30% of global GHG emissions** in the U.S.
- The region's food is **heavily dependent on food suppliers** from outside of Texas and the United States.

Total Number of Milestones

- 17 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 11 of 14 (79%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- ECO
- CES
- POM





FY23-24 Highlights: Food Access/Urban Agriculture



Key Milestones

- Convene Dallas Innercity Growers' Summit (DIGS)
- Develop annual Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Implementation Work Plan
- Implement the Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Grant Program that provides community farm assistance to community gardens in historically disadvantaged communities





Goal 8: All Dallas' communities breathe clean air.



Why it Matters?

- While air quality in North Texas is generally improving, in North Texas, ten counties including **Dallas consistently do not meet the 2008 Federal air quality criteria for ground-level ozone.**
- In the American Lung Association's "State of the Air 2023" Report, Dallas- Fort Worth ranked 18th out of the *25 Most Ozone-Polluted Cities.*

Total Number of Milestones

- 15 of 212

Total CECAP Actions Activated

- 4 of 4 (100%)

Contributing Departments

- OEQS
- PUD





FY23-24 Highlights: Air Quality



Key Milestones

- Convene regional air quality monitoring summit with local entities implementing air quality monitoring programs to assess state of the science, and opportunities for data sharing
- Continue air quality sensor installations while including efforts to coordinate neighborhood communication and partnering with public health experts for implementation of appropriate interventions
- Make data from neighborhood air quality sensors available to the public



Part IV: Tracking and Accountability



- **Performance Measures (Annual)**
 - 75% actions underway
 - 92% milestones complete
- Performance updates available at Dallas 365 progress tracker
- Detailed milestone Dashboard tracking will continue at: **DallasClimateAction.com**



Part V: Stakeholder Engagement



PTE	EVC	RISE	LEAF
Parks, Trails, and Environment Committee	Environmental Commission	Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts	Leading Environmental Actions Forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elected Officials ● 7 Members ● Directs CECAP Implementation ● Meets first Monday of the month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dallas Residents ● 15 Voting members ● 8 technical experts ● Advises on CECAP Implementation ● Meets monthly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● North Texas Municipalities ● Hosted by NCTCOG ● Supports CECAP and other regional initiatives ● Meets quarterly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City Staff ● 18 Departments implementing CECAP ● Provides CECAP status updates ● Meets quarterly



Part VI: Budget



- The FY23-24 Budget includes:
 - Approximately \$561.4 million to advance the City's Environment and Sustainability Priority
 - \$2.35 million in funding for direct CECAP implementation by OEQS
 - \$1.5 million to establish a Brownfield Environmental Justice Program through a multi-year fund
- All milestones and actions are subject to related annual budget appropriations





Questions?

CECAP Annual Report

**Parks, Trails, and the
Environment Committee
December 4, 2023**



City of Dallas

Carlos Evans, Director
Paul White II, Interim Assistant Director
Rosaerlinda Cisneros, Climate Coordinator
Office of Environmental
Quality & Sustainability

The Value of Dallas Parks

A Strong Return on Investment

December 4, 2023 | City Council

STUDY CONTEXT

In 2016, a team led by HR&A Advisors conducted a comprehensive economic value and benchmarking study of the Dallas park system.

CONTEXT

Supported advocacy for a **\$312 million bond proposal**, which voters overwhelmingly approved at the ballot box in 2017.

GOALS

- Estimate the **economic value of the Dallas park system** to the citizens of Dallas
- Describe the **economic rationale for future investment** in the park system
- Recommend **best practices and opportunities** to enhance the park system's value

METHODOLOGY

Benchmarking

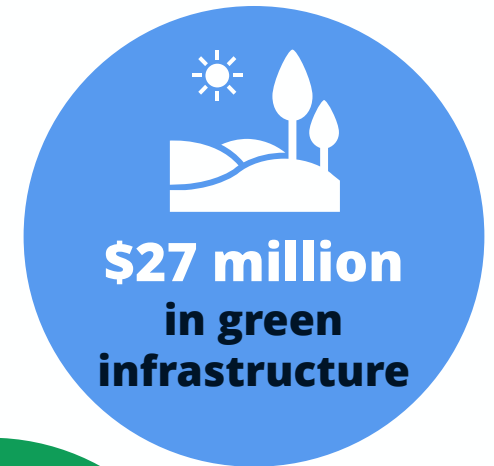
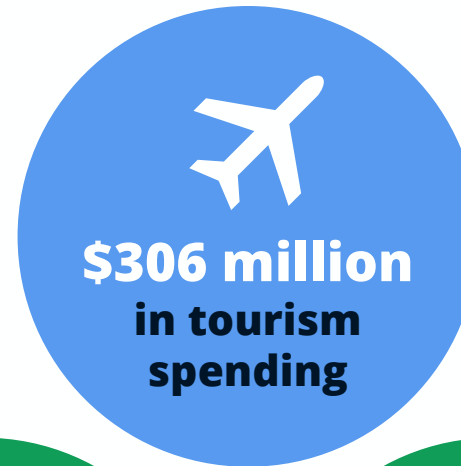
- Compare the **assets, resources, management, and uses** of the Dallas Parks system to those of nine peer systems.

Economic Value

- Estimate the value of the entire park system in terms of: Real Estate, Tourism, Environment, Local Spending, and City Building.

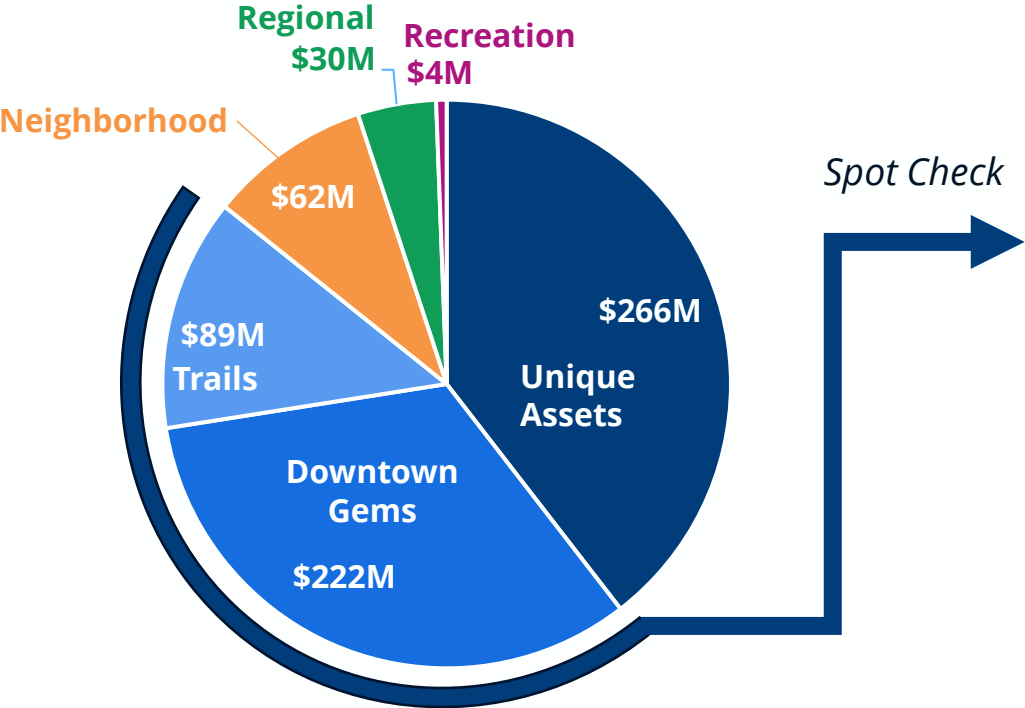
In 2016, HR&A Advisors found that Dallas' **382 parks and 145 miles of trails** return **\$678 million** to the local economy every year and deliver a **7:1 return on investment (ROI)**.

We also found the Dallas park system was **under-resourced** relative to peer systems, with approximately **40% less invested** per city resident.



HR&A revisited this analysis to support the 2024 bond proposal and found that contemporary park system **value and ROI exceed 2016 values.**

2016 Value Generated by Park Typology



2023 Findings

Dallas parks advance equity by helping to build intergenerational wealth.

Dallas parks generate real estate value through property value premiums and park-oriented development.

Dallas parks preserve critical infrastructure by maintaining essential community green spaces.

Dallas parks sustain economic development by driving visitation and city building.

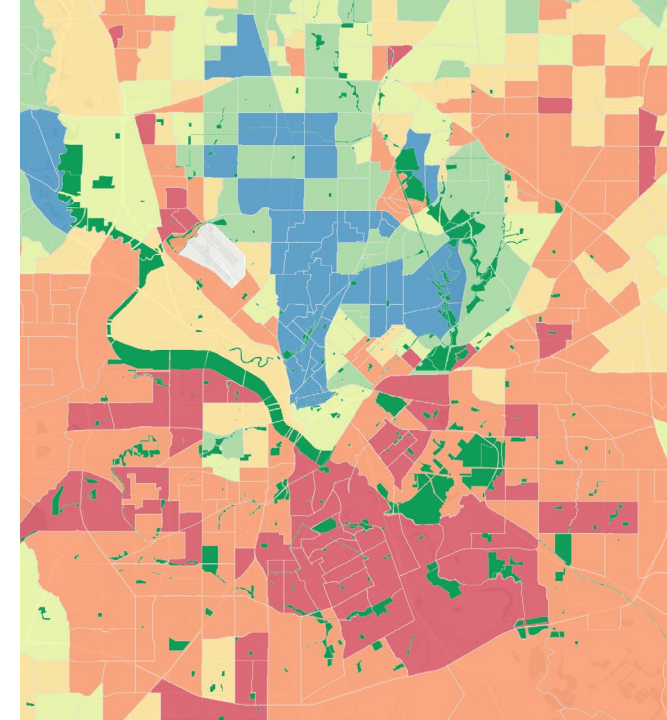
Park investment **advances equity.**

Equitable park investment catalyzes **home value increases of 5%- 25%.**

DPARD is **centering equity** in planning, funding, implementation, and outcome tracking.

The highest rates of local physical inactivity are in Southern Dallas neighborhoods where investment in urban amenities like parks has historically been inequitably made.

In other cities, equitable parks investment has, when paired with anti-displacement policies, built intergenerational wealth in historically disinvested communities, decreased physical ailments, improved quality of life and boosted productivity.



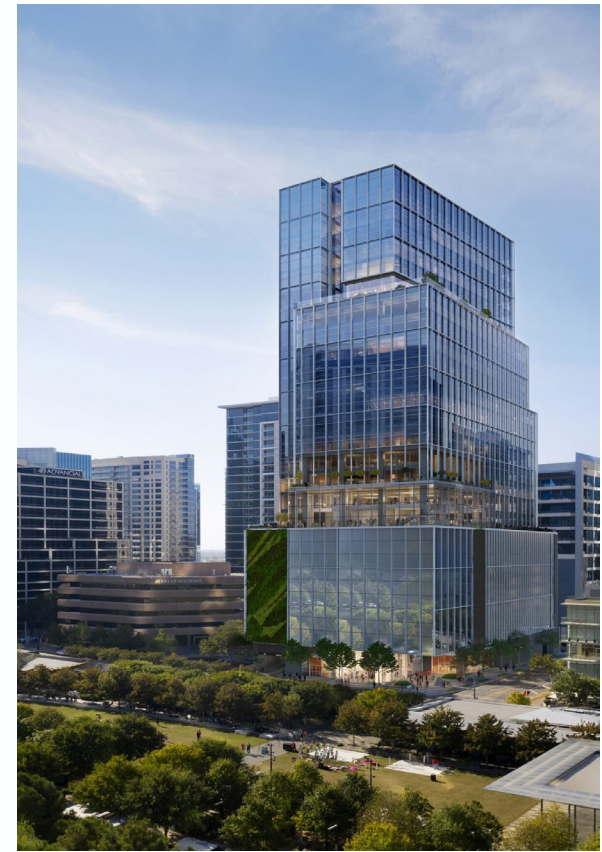
Park investment
**generates real estate
value.**

Investment in parks and
trails has laid the
foundation for **more than
\$345M in property
value premiums and
park-oriented
development.**

High impact park investments like Klyde Warren Park and the Katy Trail continue to bolster the tax base and provide revenue to support other city priorities.

Since the 2017 referendum, new trails and increased investment in parks have resulted in **ROI in excess of the 7:1** found in the previous study, driven in part by the 50:1 ROI for trails also documented in that study.

Investments in Downtown parks have been a post-COVID **stabilizing force**, supporting office **occupancy 10-25% higher** than in surrounding commercial districts. Real estate developers and brokers continue to cite park proximity as a driver of investment decisions and value creation.

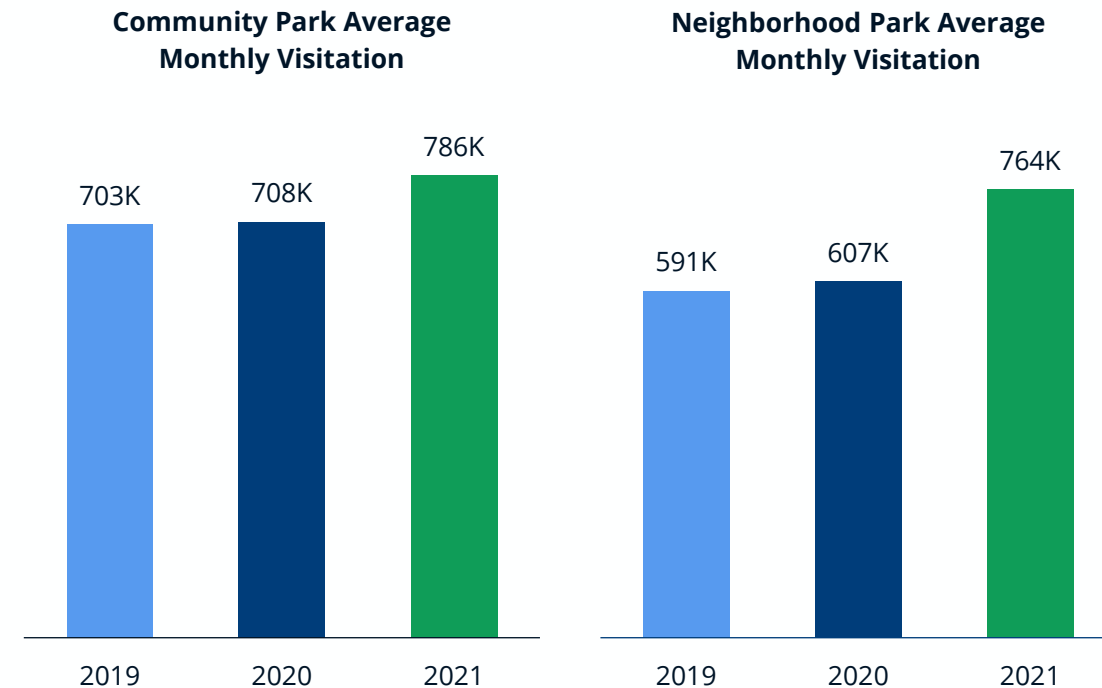


Parks investment **preserves critical infrastructure.**

In 2021, systemwide visits **exceeded 47M**, and average monthly visits to neighborhood parks **increased by 29%.**



The pandemic established that parks are **critical for physical and mental health.** Visitation rose as parks became sites for socially-distanced fitness, education, and other programs.



Park investment **produces long-lasting value**, contributing to building a city where people continue to want to live, work, play, and visit.

The growing impact of parks in Dallas points to value creation **in excess of the \$678 million** found in 2016.

City-Building

8 in 10 millennials say that proximity to parks and recreation is extremely or very important when choosing where to live.



Tourism & Local Spending

The 2022 State Fair set attendance records. New investment is poised to further increase its value.



Environmental Impacts

Dallas will face an increasing number of record-breaking heat days. **The role of parks in cooling urban heat islands** will become even more important.

The Value of Dallas Parks

A Strong Return on Investment

December 4, 2023 | City Council

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 4, 2023

TO Honorable Chair Stewart and Members of the Parks, Trails, & the Environment Committee

SUBJECT **Dallas Environmental Education Initiative (EEI) Program – Interlocal Agreement**

The Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability (OEQS) is seeking continuation of the Environmental Education Initiative (EEI) program with the University of North Texas (UNT), through a five-year interlocal agreement in an amount not to exceed \$2,803,601 – Financing: General Fund - fully reimbursed by Dallas Water Utilities (DWU). This item will be placed on the December 13, 2023 Council Agenda.

Background - DWU is a major water provider in North Texas, serving over 2.4 million people within a 699 square mile service area. To ensure that the City of Dallas (City) is a good steward of its resources and remains compliant with regulatory water conservation and planning requirements, DWU initiated a multi-faceted water conservation program in 2001. The water conservation program is currently guided by the Water Conservation Five-Year Work Plan, adopted by Dallas City Council on June 15, 2016 (Resolution No. 16-0997). The plan includes a range of efforts classed as water system improvements, ordinance changes, or continued customer engagement. These water conservation efforts benefit the City and its residents in several ways: (1) reducing overall water consumption, thereby delaying the need to develop expensive new water supplies; (2) extending the life of existing water supplies and infrastructure; (3) reducing peak water demands and base capacity of the water system; and (4) lowering capital and operating costs of the existing water system. In short, being a good steward of water resources saves money and provides a wealth of other co-benefits for Dallas residents.

Dallas EEI Program History - In FY 2006, DWU expanded its existing school education programs with the creation of the EEI to provide programs for grades kindergarten through twelve in the Dallas Independent School District and in other area schools that serve Dallas residents. In October 2018, the OEQS was given the responsibility of overseeing the City's water conservation program in coordination with DWU. On February 13, 2019, City Council authorized the renewal of a five-year service contract with the UNT for the EEI program. This program will continue to teach, create, and enhance behavior changes in thousands of school-age children residing in Dallas. The program is designed to appeal not only to the students but also to their parents and the community. This program's primary responsibility is to augment water conservation efforts as identified in the 2016 Water Conservation Five-Year Work Plan and the 2019 Water Conservation Plan.

The EEI program promotes the importance of water conservation to school- aged children through bilingual (English/Spanish) hands-on classroom activities, interactive teacher

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SUBJECT **Dallas Environmental Education Initiative (EEI) Program – Interlocal Agreement**
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workshops and community outreach activities. The multi-faceted program incorporates State accredited curricula, hands-on lessons, school presentations, teacher development training and more. The program will continue the Research Summit and Summer Internship for selected high school students. Students will learn from and work under the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math initiative.

To date, the EEI program has effectively reached a diverse student population in classroom settings and trained and collaborated with teachers and administrators. The goal is to continue to build upon the current curriculum developed for K-12 education by adding new lesson plans and updating current ones, as well as increasing the number of lessons and outreach at various community events.

In the past five years, the EEI program has served equitably across all council districts in the following manner:

- Provided water conservation lessons to over 37,099 elementary and middle school students
- Assisted over 718 teachers through interactive workshops
- Reached approximately 22,972 residents through environmental community events and activities

This interlocal agreement is in accordance with the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 791, as amended, cities, counties, special districts and other legally constituted political subdivision of the State of Texas are authorized to enter into local contacts and agreements with each other regarding governmental functions and services.

If you have any questions, please contact Carlos Evans, Director of the Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability at carlos.evans@dallas.gov or Sheila Delgado, Assistant Director at sheila.delgado@dallas.gov.



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Directors and Assistant Directors

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 4, 2023
TO Honorable Chair Stewart and Members of the Parks, Trails, and the Environment Committee
SUBJECT **Former Blue Star Site Remediation Update**

The Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability (OEQS) has previously provided information regarding work being done on sites in Dallas that have environmental justice and community public health concerns. One of these is the former Blue Star Site. OEQS most recently delivered an update to the Environment & Sustainability Council Committee by memo in November of 2022 and to the Environmental Commission in November of 2023. This memorandum will serve as a status update:

Former Blue Star Site

In October 2022, a report documenting all environmental assessment activities was submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). This report identified localized areas of lead-impacted soil and fill material (e.g., soil of unknown origin, bricks, and concrete) totaling approximately 40,000 cubic yards. In June 2023, the City determined the best action was to remediate the site by removing all fill material and submitted a remedial plan to TCEQ. TCEQ approved the City's remediation plan in August 2023 and the City started remediation on August 28, 2023. Recent remediation activities at the former Blue Star property include the following:

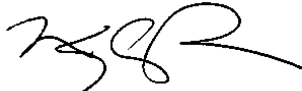
- Air Quality monitors were installed in 3 locations outside the work area and offsite to monitor air quality before and during the site remediation activities;
- The City installed stormwater pollution prevention controls around the perimeter and at the entrance/exit;
- The City met with community members to discuss remediation plans on August 24, 2023.
- Trucks started removing soil/fill material that was disposed at McCommas Bluff landfill on August 28, 2023;
- The Dashboard was updated to focus on site remediation, made public on August 29, 2023, and updated daily with truck loads removed and daily air quality data, <http://bit.ly/formerbluestarremediation>;
- Removal of soil/fill material was completed on October 2, 2023 (completed in 6 weeks and ahead of schedule); ~47,412 cubic yards (2,634 loads);
- Site restoration activities were completed on October 18, 2023 – grading, seeding, and placement of erosion controls;
- Mayor Pro Tem Atkins held a press event and community meeting on November 7, 2023;
- The report summarizing soil/fill removal activities is expected to be submitted to TCEQ by November 30, 2023, and will be uploaded to the Dashboard; and

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SUBJECT **Former Blue Star Site Remediation Update**
PAGE **2 of 2**

- TCEQ has 60 days to complete their review of the report, which is expected by February 2024.

Contacts

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact: Carlos Evans, Director, 214-670-1642; Paul White II, Assistant Director (I), 214-948-4189; or Lori Trulson, Senior Environmental Coordinator, 214-671-8967.



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Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 4, 2023

TO Honorable Chair Stewart and Members of the Parks, Trails, & the Environment Committee

SUBJECT **2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability and the Environmental Commission**

Introduction

The 89th Session of the Texas Legislature will convene in 2025 and many issues affecting local governments will be considered. This memorandum includes: recommendations from the Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability (OEQS) to the Office of Government Affairs (OGA) for possible inclusion in the City of Dallas Legislative Program; and recommendations from certain Environmental Commissioners, which have not been approved by the entire Environmental Commission. Council will adopt priorities in the City's State and Federal Legislative Programs for consideration by the United State Congress and Texas Legislature, respectively.

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability

Comprehensive Environmental & Climate Action Plan (CECAP)

In May 2020, the City Council adopted the CECAP that established a comprehensive roadmap to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare for the impacts of climate change, improve environmental quality, advance environmental justice, and create a healthier and more prosperous community. The following recommended environmental legislative priorities support the goals of the City's CECAP:

1. Support legislation to update substandard home stock (e.g., weatherization, energy efficiency, health and safety upgrades) (Goal 1).
2. Support legislation that supports green job creation and training (e.g., solar, electric vehicles, weatherization, green infrastructure), particularly in communities with environmental justice concerns (Goals 1 and 2).
3. Support legislation that reduces harmful greenhouse gases and makes our cities more resilient to climate change (Goal 2).
4. Support legislation that advances or incentivizes grid improvements and distributed energy resources (e.g., battery, solar, wind) (Goal 2).
5. Support legislation that advances or incentivizes the use of electric vehicles and EV infrastructure (Goal 3).

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SUBJECT **2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability and the Environmental Commission**

6. Support legislation that encourages the use of alternative modes of transportation (Goal 3).
7. Support legislation that expands producer responsibility (Goal 4).
8. Support legislation that bans the disposal into landfills of certain recyclable and organic materials (Goal 4).
9. Support legislation that requires and incentivizes the recycling of certain construction, remodeling, and demolition debris (Goal 4).
10. Support legislation that requires the incorporation of reusable and recyclable materials into municipal road construction and maintenance projects (Goal 4).
11. Support legislation that allows per ton surcharges on materials disposed in landfills to fund a variety of waste reduction and diversion activities (Goal 4).
12. Support legislation that incentivizes companies to make products out of recycled materials (Goal 4).
13. Prevent the narrowing of the definition of State waters (Goal 5).
14. Support legislation that incentivizes green infrastructure, particularly in communities with environmental justice concerns (Goal 6).
15. Support legislation that provides incentives to cities to advance litter and homeless abatement (Goal 6).
16. Support legislation that encourages the donation of pre-consumer edible food from food service vendors directly to those in need (Goal 7).
17. Support legislation that incentivizes the pickup and delivery of food and organic waste from food service vendors for composting and food donation (Goal 7).
18. Support legislation related to batch plant permits that require, for example: air dispersion modeling; appropriate buffers (e.g., at least 1,650 feet) between the plant and subdivisions, residential properties, public or private schools, places of worship, public parks, outdoor sports or recreational fields, and other sensitive locations; cumulative impact assessments; detailed plot plans; enhanced housekeeping requirements (e.g., use a vacuum truck (or equivalent) to clean the plant road entrances and use a tire-wash system to remove sediment from the wheels and undercarriage of trucks); fence line air monitoring; proper lighting during nighttime operations; and bi-annual inspections and inspections upon request of local community members (Goal 8).

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SUBJECT **2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability and the Environmental Commission**

19. Support legislation that ensures that TCEQ, when issuing permits: improves coordination with local governments; and increases engagement with residents (Goals 5 and 8).
20. Establish and fund an Office of Environmental Justice in TCEQ's Office of the Public Interest Counsel (Goal 5 and 8).
21. Support legislation to expedite consequences for industries that fail to meet air quality standards (Goal 8).
22. Support legislation that encourages transformational funding for building and transforming underutilized or abandoned property into sustainable and productive spaces (AQ4).

City of Dallas Environmental Commission

OEQS presented the above-mentioned legislative priorities to the Environmental Commission (EVC) on November 8, 2023. Following this briefing, members of the EVC had the opportunity to submit their own recommendations, which are included below. The EVC did not vote to approve the following, but these comments were submitted by members individually. Certain EVC members support the OEQS recommendations but have added supplemental language for specific recommendations, identified using *italics* below. Entirely new recommendations are identified using **bold subheadings**.

- **Priority 10:** Support legislation that requires the incorporation of reusable, recyclable, *and lower embodied carbon* materials into municipal road construction and maintenance projects (Goal 4).
- **Priority 12:** Support legislation that incentivizes companies to make products out of recycled *materials and lower their embodied carbon footprint* (Goal 4).
- **Priority 14:** Support legislation that incentivizes green infrastructure *and smart surfaces*, particularly in communities with environmental justice concerns (Goal 6).
- Support legislation that engages the business community in making an impact to support the CECAP.
- Strong support for items 1-6, 8-12, 14, 16-18, 20-21
- **Support for Green Job Creation and Training:** To make this priority more effective in addressing environmental justice, recommend establishing partnerships with local community colleges or vocational schools to ensure that residents in underserved areas have access to relevant training programs. Specific examples of green jobs could include:
 - Solar panel installation and maintenance.

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- Weatherization and energy efficiency retrofitting.
 - Green construction and sustainable building practices.
 - Urban forestry and tree planting initiatives in low-income neighborhoods.
- **Support for Air Quality Standards:** Given the pressing importance of air quality, propose that consequences for industries failing to meet air quality standards include not only fines but also mandatory investments in pollution control technologies. This approach would directly benefit affected communities by reducing harmful emissions.
 - **Support for Recycling and Waste Reduction:** To address environmental justice, we should emphasize the need for comprehensive recycling education programs in underserved communities. Examples of initiatives could include:
 - Community-based recycling workshops and training.
 - Supporting community recycling centers that provide jobs and services in disadvantaged areas.
 - Promoting the use of recycled materials in local construction projects.
 - **Support for Electric Vehicles (EVs) and EV Infrastructure:** In addition to supporting EV infrastructure, suggest advocating for incentives that encourage the adoption of EVs in low-income communities, such as subsidies for EV purchases or expanding electric vehicle charging networks in areas with environmental justice concerns.
 - **Support for Green Infrastructure:** To ensure that green infrastructure benefits underserved communities, we should recommend targeted investment in areas with historically neglected environmental improvements. This could include setting aside funding specifically for projects in these areas and involving local community groups in the decision-making process.
 - **Establishment of an Office of Environmental Justice in TCEQ's Office of the Public Interest Counsel:** To enhance the effectiveness of this priority, the Office of Environmental Justice should actively engage with affected communities by:
 - Conducting regular community meetings and consultations.
 - Developing environmental impact assessments specifically focused on vulnerable populations.
 - Collaborating with community-based organizations to address environmental disparities.
 - Recommending policies and initiatives that prioritize environmental justice, such as stricter regulations in areas disproportionately affected by pollution.

DATE December 4, 2023

SUBJECT **2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability and the Environmental Commission**

Next Steps

OGA is currently reviewing recommendations from all City departments. An update on the City of Dallas's Federal and State Legislative Programs will be presented to the Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs. The final programs will be presented to the full Council. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Carlos Evans, Director of OEQS, at 214-670-1642 or carlos.evans@dallas.gov.



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Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 4, 2023

TO Honorable Chair Stewart and Members of the Parks, Trails, & the Environment
Committee

SUBJECT **Environmental Commission Update**

In November, the commission received briefings on the ForwardDallas Comprehensive Land Use Plan's Environmental Justice goals, the annual Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) progress, and an update on the Former Blue Star site remediation. We also discussed the Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability's 2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities.

ForwardDallas Comprehensive Land Use Plan – Environmental Justice

Within the commission's recommendations to amend the city's Racial Equity Plan was an Equity Indicator that would create a mapping tool to measure distances between residential uses and incompatible industrial uses, including sources of air pollution, water pollution, and land contamination. It was suggested to Planning staff that they also utilize this new tool to further identify incompatible uses before the plan is finalized. It was also recommended that the performance metric of 500 feet between incompatible uses be increased to 1,000 feet. Reduction of this value will indicate improved adjacent land uses and enhanced protection of residents or sensitive uses such as parks, schools, or daycare facilities.

Commissioners previously discussed with Planning staff the idea of an EJ Overlay that would create additional considerations and requirements for land uses, permits, development plans, land clearing, allocation of resources, and notification to community stakeholders. We discussed the new Area of Focus designation to determine if it will accomplish the same goals.

We discussed how consideration is being given to community-led vision plans created out of self-determination and authorized hearings are being incorporated into the draft plan. Finally, we discussed the timeline for updating development and zoning code after the adoption of the ForwardDallas plan and what the public engagement component will include.

Annual CECAP Update

The commission heard a briefing from the Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability (OEQS) on the annual progress of the CECAP goals. OEQS staff answered questions and invited commission members to share additional feedback following the meeting.

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SUBJECT **Environmental Commission Update**
PAGE **2 of 2**

In November, the commission attended the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) cumulative impacts project kick-off in West Dallas. This new project will evaluate the total environmental impacts experienced by West Dallas residents as a result of concrete batch plants. This study is the second of its kind in the nation and will include air quality modeling, water quality sampling, fish tissue analysis and soil sampling and analysis. A report will be made publicly available at the conclusion of the project in 2024. The data can be used to support policy and law-making and to better inform decisions and resources to advance environmental equity in West Dallas. The EPA is currently preparing to launch a similar project in the Dallas community of Joppa.

December Commission Meeting

In December, the commission will receive a briefing from the North Central Texas Council of Governments on a proposed Air Quality Improvement Plan, updates from OEQS on the Brownfield's Program, the results of the city's Urban Heat Island Study, and an update on the Office of Equity & Inclusion's Environmental Justice Equity Indicators for the city's Racial Equity Plan.

If you have any questions about any of these topics, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at kathryn.bazan@dallas.gov.



Kathryn Bazan
Chairwoman, Dallas Environmental Commission

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