



City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

Sustainability Committee

Fire Station #2
13333 Alpha Link
Farmers Branch, TX, 75244

Wednesday, September
10, 2025

6:00 PM

Fire Station #2

Meeting held at 6:00 PM

Presiding: Price Trosin, Chairperson

Present: Lisa Massey, Vice-Chair
Ted Spradley, Secretary
Val Clark
Al Mahesh
Suzette Vaquera
Loren Rives
Essirifi Sackeyfio

Absent: Jasper Morse

Staff: Alex Pharmakis, Sustainability Manager

A. CALL TO ORDER

Price Trosin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm on September 10, 2025.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments received.

C. AGENDA ITEMS

C.1 Consider approving minutes from the August 13, 2025 meeting; and take appropriate action

Val Clark motioned to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Suzette Vaquera. Motion passed unanimously.

C.2 Receive staff updates on sustainability initiatives

Alex Pharmakis provided the following updates:

- The Active Transportation Plan and Complete Streets Policy was presented to the City Council on August 19 during the study session. It is currently planned for the regular agenda on October 21.
- Texan by Nature – Project Certification: Special thanks to Loren Rives for her work in completing the application to help the Water Rebate program be recognized.
- Staff are evaluating feasibility to pursue funding for Level 3 EV chargers.
- Water Rebates:
 - 117 toilet replacements approved.
 - 14 irrigation checkup applications approved.

The next Sustainability Committee meeting will be on October 8.

C.3 Discuss fall event participation

Alex Pharmakis provided the schedule for the upcoming fall events.

Public Works Events

- Compost 101 Workshop –Saturday, 9/13
- Household Hazardous Waste Recycling – Saturday, 9/27
- Shredding/Electronics Recycling – Saturday, 10/25
- Tree Giveaway – Saturday, 11/8

Tabling Opportunities

- Haunts and Houses – Thursday, 10/16 (4-6 pm)
- Halloween in the Park – Saturday, 10/25 (5-10 pm)

Alex noted which members had provided interest in volunteering for specific events and asked for additional volunteers. He noted that if more volunteers weren't available, the committee would likely only participate at one of the tabling opportunities. Alex provided the volunteer waiver form for anybody that wanted to participate.

C.4 Receive an update on the LEED for Cities Designation

Alex Pharmakis provided information regarding the LEED for cities designation. The City was selected along with fifteen other local governments for the 2025 LEED for Cities Certification Cohort. On August 22, staff submitted the preliminary application for review. The preliminary results are expected in October, and staff will have about a month to provide any additional documentation for the final submittal. The project should be completed and results received by January 2026.

Alex Pharmakis provided a list of all credit categories, highlighting which credits that the city pursued in its application.

C.5 Receive subcommittee updates

- **Built and Natural Environment**
- **Communications**
- **Water Conservation**

Built and Natural Environment: No updates

Communications: No updates. Essirifi Sackeyfio brought up an idea for the subcommittee regarding a sustainability challenge with a focus on neighborhoods. The subcommittee and staff will review the feasibility of the challenge or if a similar program mentioned at a previous meeting would suffice.

Water Conservation: Mentioned drought preparedness and city efforts to save water. Members asked if the upcoming water meter dashboard could provide alerts to homeowners if a home has no periods of time within a month without water usage, suggesting a leak.

C.6 Receive an update from Committee members on activities attended

Loren Rives attended the City Council meeting on August 19 for the presentation on the Active Transportation Plan and Complete Streets Policy.

C.7 Discuss agenda items for future Sustainability Committee meetings

Essirifi Sackeyfio mentioned potentially creating an outreach plan for incentivizing sustainable behavior changes.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Al Mahesh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Suzette Vaquera. Motion approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Chair

Secretary