

# Sustainability Committee Annual Update

City Council Meeting | November 4, 2025

**Requested By: City Council** 



Sustainability Committee

# **Background**

- Focused on implementation of the adopted Sustainability Plan
- Tasked with providing recommendations to Council
- Worked on energy, water, air quality, and environmental conservation projects
- Increased community awareness through volunteerism and outreach

# **Highlights Since Our Last Update**

#### **Grants**

 Department of Energy – Electric Vehicles – \$76,570

#### **Projects**

- Active Transportation Plan, Complete Streets
   Policy, SolSmart, LEED for Cities, greenhouse gas inventory update
  - Support for water meter replacement and grow zones

#### Programs

 Tree Giveaway, Water Conservation Rebates, Compost 101 Workshop, Lights Out Texas, tabling at City Events

#### **Awards**

 Texan by Nature: TxN 20 award and Project Certification





## **Issues and City Solutions**

Air Quality Example



#### Reasoning

- Poor air quality = negative health impacts
- DFW metro exceeds Clean Air Act thresholds
- Primary cause is on-road vehicles



#### **Limits of City Government**

- Few levers to pull within local constraints
  - Reduce vehicle emissions
  - Reduce single occupancy vehicle trips



#### **Actions**

- Purchase fuel efficient and/or zero emission vehicles
- Make EV charging more easily accessible
- Implement safety measures to make active and public transportation options more feasible



#### **Next Steps**

Apply to other sustainability issues:

- Water conservation
- Native plants
- Greenhouse gas emissions





#### **Trees**



#### City in a Park

Tree Canopy contributes to the City's motto and provides numerous sustainability benefits



#### Data

Overall canopy coverage has declined over time with development; correlates with heat islands throughout the city



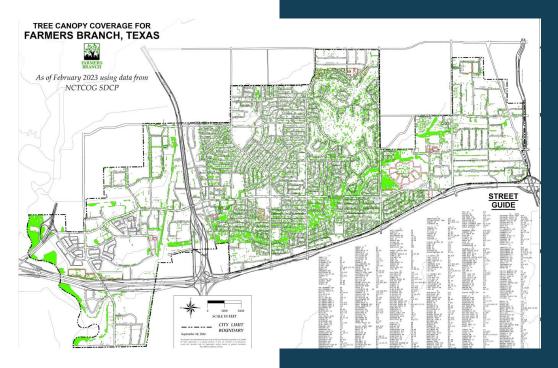
#### **Actions**

- Established annual tree giveaway program
- Parks Division tree plantings on City properties
- Maintaining Tree City USA designation



#### **Next Steps**

- Requesting Council to look at policy solutions to maintain and expand the tree canopy
  - Landscape Ordinance updates
  - Tree Preservation Ordinance





## What's Next?



Build upon successes and increase participation

#### Community outreach opportunities

 Provide education and resources to residents to adopt sustainable practices

#### Committee recommendations for future projects

Expansion of rebate programs and efforts to increase tree canopy

#### **Assist with priorities of Council**

 Provide research and recommendation on topics provided by the Council

#### Look towards a sustainable future

- Making Farmers Branch a desirable city for our children and future generations
- A sustainable city is a prosperous city with a stable population



# Discussion & Direction

