



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 12, 2025

TO: Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee

FROM: Katherine Barnett, Sustainability Manager

SUBJECT: Outstanding Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee (SFAC) Matrix items and status updates.

Greenspace Enhancements

A request was made in June 2024 to consider greenspace enhancements.

Funding was allocated in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Sustainability Framework Fund Workplan for low water use medians. Staff will update SFAC as this project progresses.

Incentives

Consideration for reinstating solar rebates, creating new rebates for battery storage, Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations, white roofs, permeable sidewalks/driveways, and reflective paving were Matrix items requested in July and August 2025. Both reinstating solar rebates and creating additional rebates would require reallocation of existing funding and staff, or increased funding and additional staff to implement these programs.

Solar rebates were discontinued in 2023 by City Council vote for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, and funding was shifted to enhance GreenSense energy efficiency rebates. The shift to GreenSense energy efficiency rebates allows the funding to benefit significantly more residential structures and both homeowners and tenants. Focusing on energy efficiency aligns with the Climate Action Plan and can reduce energy consumption and utility bills. Increasing energy efficiency of existing residential structures by 25% would reduce 3.6% of the total emissions reductions modeled for the SSG Climate Plan, while increasing solar to 192MW by 2045 would reduce only 0.4% of the total emissions reductions modeled.

To reinstate solar rebates, funding would need to be identified in the City of Denton Operating Budget, or the Sustainability Framework Fund and a new Workplan would need to be developed for consideration by the SFAC and recommended to the City Council for approval.

Creating new rebates for residential battery storage and Level 2 car charging stations would require additional funding or reallocation of funding from current Sustainability Framework Fund programs. This would require staff time to research programs and develop rebate structure options to present to the SFAC for review and make a recommendation for consideration by the City Council.

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Rebate incentives for white roofs, permeable sidewalks/driveways, and reflective paving would require both reallocation of funding from Sustainability Framework Fund existing programs and significant staff time to research alternatives and identifying any Denton Development Code (DDC) restrictions. Significant time would also be spent considering modifications to the DDC if necessary, and establishing program requirements and verification procedures. Further resources would be allocated to present these rebates to the SFAC for review and any future recommendation to the City Council.

Denton Municipal Electric Updates

In August and September of 2025, the SFAC requested additional information about the Renewable Energy Policy, the Integrated Resource Plan, and what pollution costs would be if an acquisition of dispatchable generation occurs. Details of the Texas legislation regarding the acquisition of dispatchable generation were also requested.

Denton Municipal Electric (DME) does not yet have a firm timeline for either project and has previously stated that it will likely take 2 years to complete. Staff will update SFAC when timelines are available.

The pollution cost of acquiring dispatchable generation is unknown, as a facility has not been identified.

Legislation that was proposed requiring load serving entities to back up all their load with dispatchable generation did not pass and is not a factor at this time.

Moseley Road Landfill

The SFAC requested information about the size of the Moseley Road Landfill site in October 2025. The Moseley Road Landfill site, located in Crossroads, TX, is approximately 73 acres.

Air Quality Data Analysis

In August 2025, the SFAC requested an annual and semi-annual analysis of the air quality data that the City captures, specifically the data that is captured but not seen on the dashboard for public viewing.

Staff have spoken to the University of North Texas about data analysis and will update the Committee as details become available.

Wildlife Corridors

In September 2025 the SFAC requested an update on the Wildlife Corridor Survey in reference to how the survey relates to ecosystem protection.

The Denton Development Code calls out the protection of plant and wildlife habitat in development and in Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs).

- 7.4.1.B. Protect the natural and ecological resources that are essential elements of the city's health and community character and which provide irreplaceable plant and wildlife habitat.

- 7.7.4.A.8. Enhance and preserve established tree stands adjacent to Environmentally Sensitive Areas in order to further protect wildlife habitats and reduce impacts from new developments

The Denton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, as approved on March 22, 2022, established Key Action #127 - Identify and map wildlife corridors throughout the City.

In advance of the Denton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, a Habitat Connectivity Map was provided in the March 18, 2022, Friday Report (II.C. and Attachment A). This map took a different look at the Preferred Land Preservation Map (Figure 2.3 of the 2040 Comp Plan). [031822 Friday Staff Report](#)

Three Informal Staff Reports were published in City of Denton Friday Reports between June 2022 and September 2023.

- June 2022– Staff provided ISR 2022-038, [2022-038 Process for Identifying and Mapping Wildlife Corridors](#), which staff recommended a definition for wildlife corridors as “greenspace and manmade structures/improvements that allow wildlife to move between larger areas of existing habitat.” The term wildlife corridor was not previously defined within the Denton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, but was recommended within this ISR. Additionally, the ISR outlined a two-pronged approach to identify and map the wildlife corridors. The first step was to generate an overall greenspace map that pulls information from existing City of Denton resources.
- December 2022 – Staff provided ISR 2022-077, [2022-077 Greenspace Map Update](#) which included an update on the greenspace map in support of identifying and mapping wildlife corridors. That update included graphic images of the greenspace map and its components as well as outlined the next step of working with a wildlife working group to finalize a wildlife corridor map.

A Wildlife Working Group was formed in May 2023 and met five times before concluding work on July 26, 2023. The University of North Texas and the City of Denton worked through the final model description and graphics throughout August 2023.

- September 2023 – Staff provided ISR 2023-063, [2023-063 Wildlife Corridors](#) which included a timeline of activities and a history of the work completed with the University of North Texas and the Wildlife Working Group. A final Wildlife Corridor Map was included with the ISR and identified for use as a planning tool when reviewing and recommending future land uses.

The Wildlife Corridor Map is an available layer on the City of Denton GIS Maps [City of Denton GIS](#). The Map includes the most likely paths between areas of interest and identified greenspace under the City’s control. Environmentally Sensitive Areas that can be protected through the Development Code, i.e. floodplain, riparian buffer, water related and cross timbers habitat, expand beyond the likely paths used by wildlife.

To view the Wildlife Corridor/Greenspace

Open the General Interactive Map. On the right-hand side of the map, select the Planning box by clicking on the square next to the Planning on the right-hand list of layers. It will add a blue check mark. If the list does not expand, click the triangle next to the blue check. Under Planning, select Wildlife Corridors. To add ESA layers, select ESAs by clicking the box and selecting any ESA layers you would like to view.