



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney St.
Denton, Texas 76201
www.cityofdenton.com

Meeting Agenda

Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

1:00 PM

City Council Work Session Room

After determining that a quorum is present, the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee of the City of Denton, Texas will convene in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas at which the following items will be considered:

1. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- A. [SFAC25-043](#) Consider approval of the December 12, 2025 minutes.

Attachments: [SFAC Minutes 12.12.2025](#)

- B. [SFAC25-044](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on the adoption of the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee 2026 Meeting Schedule.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1. Agenda Information Sheet](#)
[Exhibit 2. Meeting Schedule](#)

- C. [SFAC26-046](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Quarter 1 incentive programs activity and updates.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1. Agenda Information Sheet](#)
[Exhibit 2. Presentation](#)

- D. [SFAC26-047](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding a summary of Sustainability education, outreach, and social media metrics for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1. Agenda Information Sheet](#)
[Exhibit 2. Presentation](#)

- E. [SFAC26-048](#) Staff Reports
1. WaterWise Staff Memo
 2. GreenSense Staff Memo
 3. Denton's Flood Risk Planning Memo
 4. Matrix

Attachments: [WaterWise Staff Memo](#)
[GreenSense Staff Memo](#)
[Denton's Flood Risk Planning Memo](#)
[Matrix](#)

2. CONCLUDING ITEMS

A. Under Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, respond to inquiries from the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee or the public with specific factual information or recitation of policy, or accept a proposal to place the matter on the agenda for an upcoming meeting AND Under Section 551.0415 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, provide reports about items of community interest regarding which no action will be taken, to include: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; information regarding holiday schedules; an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; a reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; or an announcement involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the official website (<https://tx-denton.civicplus.com/242/Public-Meetings-Agendas>) and bulletin board at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, on February 17, 2026, in advance of the three (3) business day posting deadline, as applicable, and in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

NOTE: THE CITY OF DENTON'S DESIGNATED PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE CITY WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION, SUCH AS SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, IF REQUESTED AT LEAST TWO (2) BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. PLEASE CALL THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT 940-349-8309 OR USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF (TDD) BY CALLING 1-800-RELAY-TX SO THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION CAN BE ARRANGED.

**CITY OF DENTON SUSTAINABILITY
FRAMEWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 12, 2025**

After determining that a quorum was present, the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee of the City of Denton, Texas, convened in a Regular Meeting on Friday, December 12, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. in the City Council Work Session Room at 215 E. McKinney St, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Chair Edward Soph, Member Dave Helms, Member Adam Briggle, and Member Camelia Maier.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION: Christopher Mullins

ABSENT: Vice Chair Brand Richter

REGULAR MEETING

1. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- A. SFAC25-039** Consider approval of the October 24, 2025, minutes.

Chair Soph requested consideration of the previous meeting minutes for October 24, 2025. Member Helm moved to approve the minutes. Member Maier seconded. Motion carried.

AYES (4): Chair Soph, Member Helms, Member Briggle, and Member Maier

NAYS (0): None

- B. SFAC25-040** Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on a recommendation to City Council for adoption of the final draft of the Simply Sustainable Framework.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Chair Soph motioned to move forward for the adoption of the Simply Sustainable Framework final draft with changes to include the expansion of the glossary and the addition of the definition of climate change. Member Briggle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AYES (4): Chair Soph, Member Helms, Member Briggle, and Member Maier

NAYS (0): None

C. SFAC25-041 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee 2026 Meeting Schedule.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Staff will present a 2026 Meeting Schedule for approval by the Committee at the next meeting in January 2026.

D. SFAC25-042 Staff Reports
1. Matrix Update Memo
2. Matrix

Member Helms suggested a small-scale nuclear presentation to be put on the matrix as a future goal.

2. CONCLUDING ITEMS

With no further business, Chair Soph requested a motion to adjourn. Member Helms moved to adjourn. Member Maier seconded. Motion carried. Chair Soph closed the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

AYES (4): Chair Soph, Member Helms, Member Briggie, and Member Maier

NAYS (0): None

Edward Soph
Chair
City of Denton, Texas

Meredith Owens
Administrative Assistant III
City of Denton, Texas

Minutes approved on: _____



City of Denton

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AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services & Sustainability

ACM: Frank R. Dixon, Assistant City Manager

DATE: February 25, 2026

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on the adoption of the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee 2026 Meeting Schedule.

BACKGROUND

During the December 12, 2025 Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee (SFAC) meeting, the SFAC provided direction to continue to schedule meetings monthly with modifications for summer travel, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Staff reviewed preferences and prepared the attached meeting schedule for the SFAC consideration.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Meeting Schedule

Respectfully submitted:
Katherine Barnett
940-349-8202



Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee 2026 Meeting Schedule

January 28, 2026

February 25, 2026

March 25, 2026

April 22, 2026

May 27, 2026

June 24, 2026

July 22, 2026 (Summer Break – **NO MEETING**)

August 26, 2026

September 23, 2026

October 28, 2026

November 25, 2026 (Thanksgiving Holiday – **NO MEETING**)

December 9, 2026 (SPECIAL DATE)

December 23, 2026 (Christmas Holiday – **NO MEETING**)

Meetings will typically be held on the fourth Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the City Council Worksession Room located in City Hall, 215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX.

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AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services & Sustainability

ACM: Frank R. Dixon, Assistant City Manager

DATE: February 25, 2026

SUBJECT

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Quarter 1 incentive programs activity and updates.

BACKGROUND

Sustainability Framework Fund Incentives Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Results

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Program Results	Annual Funding	Number of Applications Approved	Total Rebates Paid	Percentage of Funding Expended
Electric Vehicle	\$150,000	98	\$98,000	65%
E-Bike	\$100,000	101	\$61,485	61%
Electric Lawn Equipment Pilot	\$50,000	361	\$58,062	116%

A total of 560 rebates (\$217,547) were issued through three incentive programs in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

A total of 126 Electric Vehicle applications were processed, 98 were approved, totaling \$98,000. A total of 119 E-Bike applications were processed, 101 were approved, totaling \$61,485. For the Electric Lawn Equipment Pilot, a total of 391 applications were processed, 361 were approved, totaling \$58,062.

DISCUSSION

Sustainability Framework Fund Incentives Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Q1 Results

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Q1 Program Results	Annual Funding	Number of Applications Approved	Total Rebates Paid	Percentage of Funding Expended
Electric Vehicle	\$150,000	17	\$17,000	11%
E-Bike	\$100,000	49	\$27,094	27%
Electric Lawn Equipment	\$100,000	108	\$15,144	15%

In Q1 Fiscal Year 2025-2026, across three programs, a total of 174 rebates were issued totaling \$59,238.

A total of 33 Electric Vehicle applications were processed, 17 were approved, totaling \$17,000. A total of 56 E-Bike applications were processed, 49 were approved, totaling \$27,094. A total of 118 Electric Lawn Equipment applications were processed, 108 were approved, totaling \$15,144.

Electric Vehicle applications continued to slow in Q1 of FY 2025-2026, and only 11% of funding was expended. Of the 17 approved Electric Vehicle applications, 14 were for vehicles purchased prior to federal incentives expiring September 30, 2025. Staff plans to monitor and report rebate utilization to the Committee to allow additional funding considerations.

E-Bike applications are on track, and the average rebate has dropped to \$533 in Q1 Fiscal Year 2025-2026 from \$609 in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. The average purchase price has also decreased to \$1,193 in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 from \$1,599 in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Lawn Equipment applications are steady and expected to increase in Q2 Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Staff continue to promote all incentives through the Sustainability Incentives page on the City of Denton Website. [Sustainability Incentives |Denton, TX](#), and through social media, newsletters, classes and presentations, and events throughout the community.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Low-Income E-Bike Program

The SFAC has previously expressed interest in supporting low-income E-Bike purchases. If Electric Vehicle applications remain flat, funding could be redirected to the E-Bike program to be used for an increased rebate level for income-qualified applicants. If the Committee is still interested, staff can review the existing income-qualified program feasibility with Legal and Procurement and present options at a future committee meeting.

Vouchers

The SFAC has previously expressed interest in supporting vouchers, or point of sale discounts, in place of or in addition to rebates. Staff recently became aware of a new voucher program planned to be offered by the City of Dallas; and plans to explore the feasibility of vouchers for City of Denton programs.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Presentation

Submitted By:
Katherine Barnett
Sustainability Manager



Sustainability Framework Fund Incentives Update Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Q1

Environmental Services and
Sustainability

February 25, 2026

Today's Presentation

- Review Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Results
- Review Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Q1 Results
- Future Considerations
- Next Steps

Sustainability Framework Fund Incentives Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Results

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Program Results	Annual Funding	Number of Applications Approved	Total Rebates Paid	Percentage of Funding Expended
Electric Vehicle	\$150,000	98	\$98,000	65%
E-Bike	\$100,000	101	\$61,485	61%
Electric Lawn Equipment	\$50,000	361	\$58,062	116%

Sustainability Framework Fund

Incentives Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Q1 Results

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Q1 Program Results	Annual Funding	Number of Applications Approved	Total Rebates Paid	Percentage of Funding Expended
Electric Vehicle	\$150,000	17	\$17,000	11%
E-Bike*	\$100,000	49	\$27,094	27%
Electric Lawn Equipment	\$100,000	108	\$15,144	15%

*FY25/26 - E-Bike average rebate decreased from \$609 to \$533 & average purchase price decreased from \$1,599 to \$1,193 from FY24/25

Future Considerations

- Review ability to create a low-income E-Bike Rebate program.
- Review ability to provide vouchers in place of or in addition to rebates for some rebate categories.

Next Steps

- Staff will continue to monitor and report program results
- Review future considerations with appropriate City Departments.

Questions

Katherine Barnett
Sustainability Manager
Environmental Services & Sustainability





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AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services & Sustainability

ACM: Frank R. Dixon, Assistant City Manager

DATE: February 25, 2026

SUBJECT

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding a summary of Sustainability education, outreach, and social media metrics for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

BACKGROUND

Sustainability education and outreach programming focus on topics within the Sustainability Framework, such as materials management (waste and recycling), air quality, water, energy, land use, and transportation. Social media provides an avenue to disseminate information, increase awareness, and provide additional learning opportunities.

Education and Outreach

Sustainability education and outreach include classes and workshops, tabling at events, activities, presentations, tours, and meetings. These engagement opportunities provide resources for our community to conserve energy and water, improve air quality, help native plants and wildlife, reduce waste, and recycle effectively to ensure a more sustainable future for Denton. The Denton Sustainable Schools Program intertwines sustainability messaging across multiple Sustainability Framework focus areas at age-appropriate levels for students, staff, and faculty.

In Fiscal Year 2024-2025, Sustainability staff participated in 172 events with a total attendance of 13,950 people. Tabling includes participating in various events, including City of Denton, University of North Texas, Texas Woman's University, Denton Independent School District, and other community events. Presentations this past year have included Backyard Chickens, City of Denton Incentives: Who's Eligible and How to Apply, Get Site to Site like a Dentonite, and Turf Lawn Alternatives, which inform residents on different Sustainability Framework focus areas. Tours of the recycling facility, City of Denton Landfill, Lake Lewisville and Lake Ray Roberts Water Treatment Plants, and Pecan Creek Water Reclamation Plant provide a behind-the-scenes view for residents and students to learn how they can incorporate sustainability into their everyday lives and interact with City of Denton services. Meetings are held with apartment complexes, schools, and businesses to determine collaborative opportunities for incorporating sustainability into their operations. Lastly, activities are any events where residents or students can actively participate while learning sustainability topics. Examples of activities from this past year include trivia nights, Great Backyard Bird Count, DIY Rainwater Harvesting, and STEM kit events.

Total Events for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025		
Event Type	Number of Events	Total Attendance
Activity	38	1,786
Meeting	4	44
Presentation	70	3,448
Tabling	49	8,468
Tours	11	204
Totals:	172	13,950

In comparison, total events for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, October 1 to September 30, were 160 with 10,748 attendees.

Social Media

The Sustainability division manages both the Sustainability and Solid Waste and Recycling social media accounts. Sustainability uses platforms such as Facebook and Instagram as additional tools to reach residents on their screens. Solid Waste and Recycling uses Facebook, Instagram, X, and Nextdoor. All social media platforms are additional methods to communicate and educate residents within the community, and provide simple tips and reminders of upcoming workshops. Social media acts as an additional tool to further advance messaging to the broader community. All social media platforms noted an increase in followers over Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Turf Lawn Alternatives – March 5
- Container Gardening – March 18
- Seed Starting – March 28
- Get Site to Site Like a Dentonite – April 4
- Sprinkler Spruce Up – May 6
- World Migratory Bird Day – May 9
- Creating a Backyard Prairie – May 21

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Presentation

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Boerner
Sustainability Engagement Specialist



FY 24-25 Education and Outreach Recap

Karen Boerner

Sustainability Engagement Specialist

Environmental Services & Sustainability

February 25, 2026

Today's Focus

- Background of Sustainability Education
- Recycling Education
- Denton Sustainable Schools
- Sustainability Education
- Outreach and Events
- Social Media
- Upcoming Outreach and Events
- Discussion

Background

- Sustainability Education
 - Launched in 2007 with Denton ISD Field Trips to Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center
 - Evolved and expanded over the last 19 years
- Denton Sustainable Schools
 - Established in 2004
 - Full program relaunch Fall 2022
- Recycling Education
 - Expanded in January 2021



Education & Outreach

Residential & Multifamily Recycling Education

- Education
 - PRATT Recycling Facility Tours
 - Recycling Classes
 - Presentations
 - Signage COD Buildings
- Outreach
 - Apartment Events
 - Campus Collaborations
 - Community Events
 - Texas Recycles Day

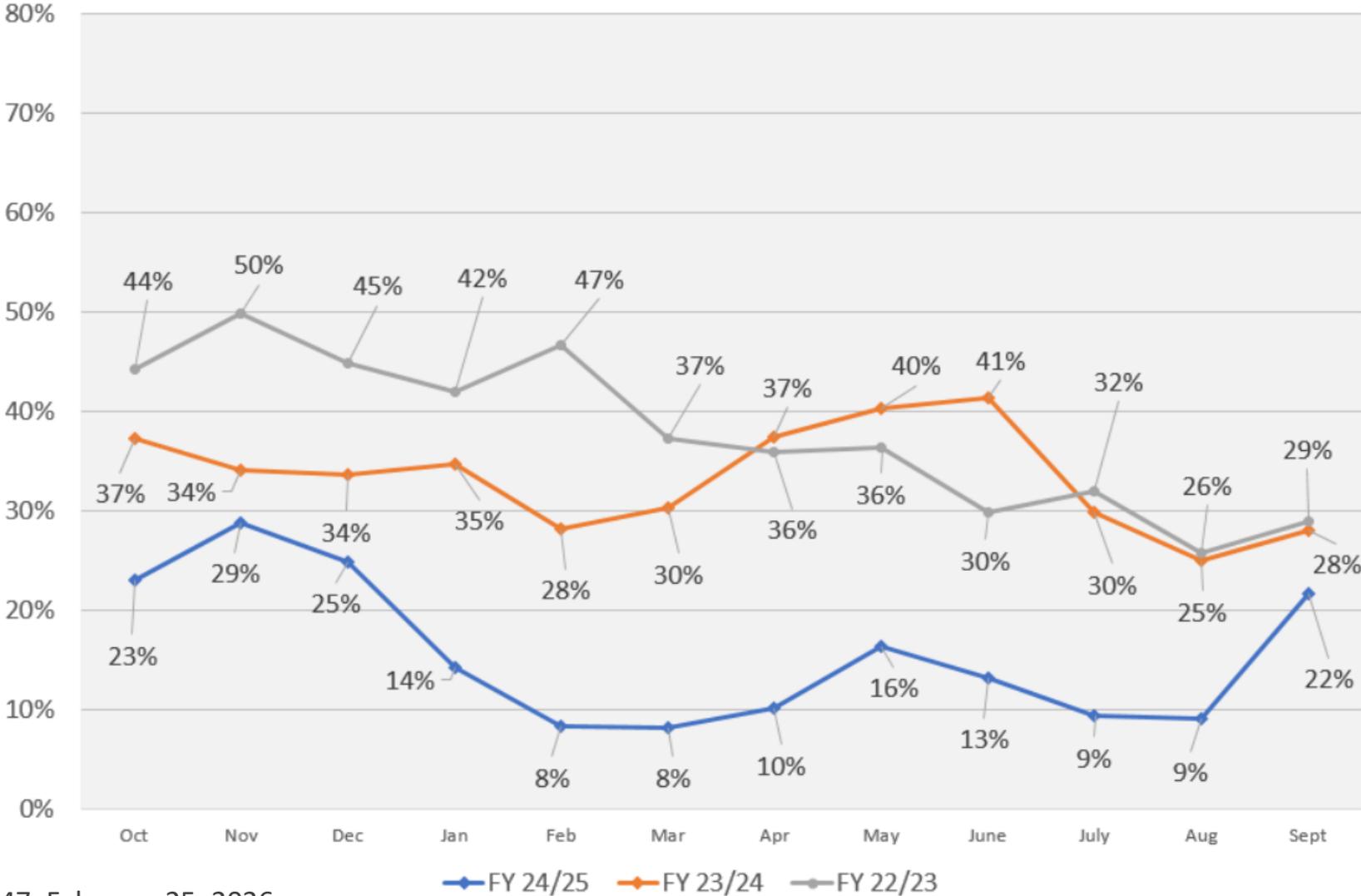


Market Strategy

- Targeted Advertising
- Cartvertising
- Golden Triangle Mall
- UNT Athletics
- North TX Daily
- Spanish Radio
- Newsletters/Magazines
- Future Initiatives



Overall Recycling Contamination Rate



Denton Sustainable Schools

Participating Schools FY 24/25: 7 DISD 2 Private

- Sustainability Education
- School Challenges
 - Recycling Audit Winners - Ryan HS and Hodge Elementary
 - Sustainability Activity Winners - Shultz Elementary
- STEM Kit Check-Out
- Tours

Participating Schools FY 25/26: 10 DISD 1 Private



Sustainability Education

- Education

- Water & Energy Conservation
- Wildlife and Wildflowers
- Air Quality
- Transportation
- Local Food



- Outreach

- Pop-up events
- Universities
- Community events



Highlights

- TXSWANA Presentation
- TCEQ: Texas Environmental Excellence Award
 - Denton Sustainable Schools
- STAR: 2024 Excellence in Environmental Awareness Education
 - Denton Sustainable Schools
- Bird City Texas





Social Media

Sustainability

Today is the start of Fall
Bird Migration

Remember

Turn off all non-essential outdoor lighting from **11 p.m. to 6 a.m.**

- and -

Apply decals to outdoor facing windows to make them more visible to birds



Refresh *with a* free fan



Fans can make you feel up to 4 degrees cooler & cost pennies per month to operate

Register for a fan at www.sustainabledenton.com



Air quality is indicated by **different colors**, representing the impact on **public health**

 green	 yellow	 orange
Good	Moderate	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
 red	 purple	
Unhealthy	Very unhealthy	



Continue to monitor Denton **air quality index (AQI)** at www.sustainabledenton.com



Sustainability

Native GROUNDCOVERS



Texas Frogfruit



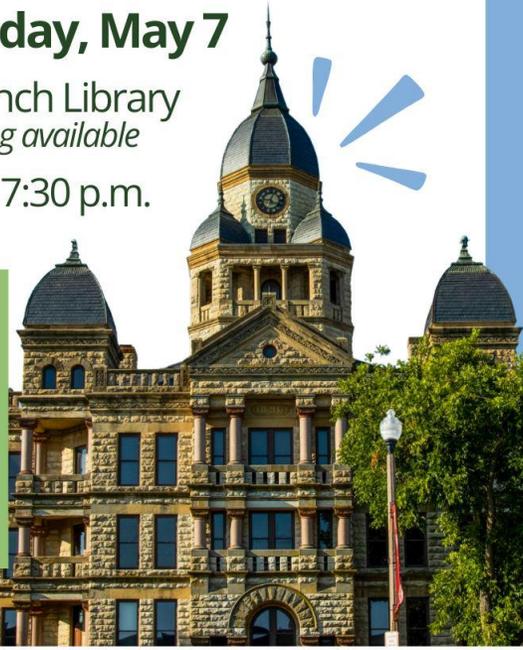
Horseherb



Get *SITE TO SITE* LIKE A DENTONITE

- Wednesday, May 7**
- North Branch Library
**EV charging available*
- 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Learn about Denton's alternative transportation options!

A graphic of a blue water tap with water flowing into a blue water drop shape. The text "FIX A LEAK WEEK!" is written in large blue letters. Below the water drop, it says "It only takes 10 MINUTES to check for leaks in your home!" and "Learn how to spot a leak!". The background is blue with a white arrow pointing right.

FIX A LEAK WEEK!

It only takes **10 MINUTES** to check for leaks in your home!

Learn how to spot a leak!



#FixALeakWeek



Recycling

A graphic for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. It features a blue banner with white stars at the top, the text 'MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY' in large, outlined letters, and a red and white wavy banner at the bottom. The text 'All residential collections will be delayed by one day.' is centered below the main title. The City of Denton logo is in the top right corner, and the City of Denton logo is in the bottom left corner.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

==== ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ =====

All residential collections will be delayed by one day.

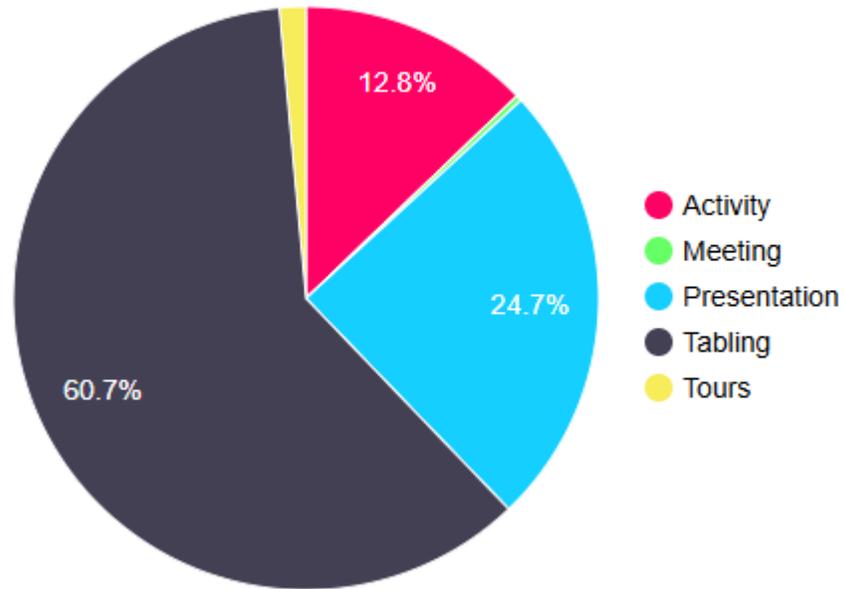




Year-End Break Down

Community Outreach FY 24/25

Percentage by Attendance

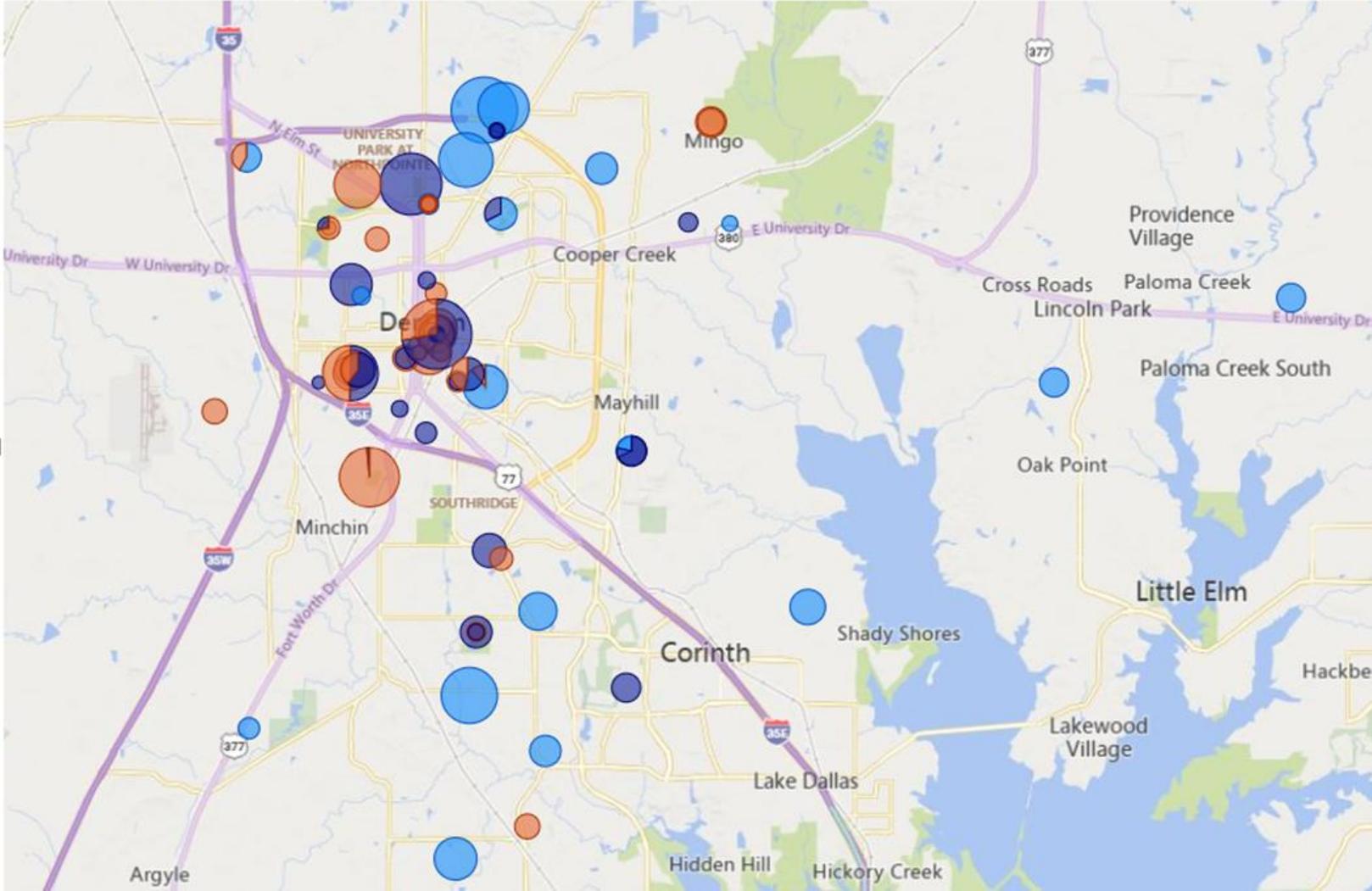


Total attendance:
13,950

29.8% increase from FY 23/24
attendance, 10,748

FY 24/25 Locations and Attendance

Program Area ● DSS ● Recycling ● Sustainability



Upcoming

- Turf Lawn Alternatives - March 5
- Container Gardening - March 18
- Seed Starting - March 28
- Get Site to Site Like a Dentonite - April 4
- Sprinkler Spruce Up - May 6
- World Migratory Bird Day - May 9
- Creating a Backyard Prairie - May 21



Discussion





MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 25, 2026
TO: Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee
FROM: Shelby Robertson, Conservation Program Coordinator
SUBJECT: WaterWise Incentive Program Updates

WaterWise Incentive Program

The City of Denton Water Utilities and Sustainability staff collaborated to implement the WaterWise Incentive Program. This program started in March 2025 and currently offers Irrigation Evaluations, rebates for Smart Irrigation Controllers, Sprinkler Tune-Ups, and Turf Buy-Back.

Irrigation Evaluations are a no-cost service that helps residents identify necessary repairs, opportunities to upgrade, and adjustments to their irrigation schedule. The Smart Irrigation Controller Rebate covers 100% of the cost, up to \$300, for residents to update their irrigation controller to an EPA Watersense® controller. The Sprinkler Tune-Up Rebate provides a \$100 rebate for residents to hire a licensed irrigation professional for a sprinkler system tune-up. The Turf Buy-Back Rebate provides \$5.00 per square foot for the first 2,500 square feet converted (minimum 400 sq. ft. required) and \$3.50 per square foot for additional conversions up to 10,000 square feet to assist residents in reducing turf area and creating a sustainable landscape.

Rebate Type	Rebates
Irrigation Evaluations	Free
Smart Irrigation Controllers	100% up to \$300
Sprinkler Tune-Ups	Up to \$100
Turf Buy-Back	\$5 per sq. ft. for the first 2,500 sq. ft. \$3.50 per sq. ft. for 2,501 to 10,000 sq. ft.

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Applications through 1/13/26

Incentive Type	Applications Submitted	Approved & Completed
Smart Irrigation Controller Rebate	57	27
Sprinkler Tune-Up Rebate	29	11
Turf Buy-Back Rebate	125*	14
Total	261	52

*This number includes applications that were submitted but the applicant did not respond to a Turf Buy-Back Pre-Inspection appointment request.

Application Rejections

Common reasons for application rejections

- Applicants do not meet program requirements
- Insufficient documentation
- Applicant does not respond to Turf Buy-Back Pre-Inspection request



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 25, 2026
TO: Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee
FROM: Kaitlynn Mather, Conservation Program Coordinator
SUBJECT: Emissions Reductions from Fiscal Year 2024-2025 GreenSense Program

In Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the GreenSense Energy Efficiency Incentive Program (GreenSense) did not experience significant changes in funding levels when compared to the previous fiscal year. The program offering changes to GreenSense in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 included adding rebates for HVAC mini split systems and heat pump water heaters.

The most popular and cost-effective GreenSense rebates include HVAC, insulation, and window rebates. Of the 795 GreenSense rebate awards in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, 37.11% were HVAC, 7.42% were insulation, and 7.73% were windows. The following table shows the breakdown of the average cost for the top three GreenSense rebates, and the percentage of total project cost covered.

Equipment	Total Awarded	Average Cost	Average Rebate	Percent of Total Cost
HVAC	295	\$13,836.00	\$2,014.48	15.86%
Insulation	59	\$2,999.94	\$1,187.98	44.55%
Windows	58	\$13,908.00	\$1,390.00	16.00%

Kilowatt hour (kWh) reduction estimates and greenhouse gas equivalent (CO₂e) reductions are estimated for HVAC, insulation, and windows. Calculations are based on the first 12 months rather than the lifetime of the equipment, which can vary. The following table shows the kWh avoided from the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 GreenSense rebates and the GreenSense cost to reduce.

Equipment	kWh Reduced	Cost Per kWh Reduced
HVAC	1,366,925	\$0.43
Insulation	71,644	\$0.98
Windows	656,240	\$0.12

During Climate Action Plan discussions, staff noted that more than 74% of homes in Denton were built in 2009 or earlier, creating a large portion of housing stock that would need to be upgraded to achieve climate goals. GreenSense assists residents in making energy efficiency

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upgrades to improve comfort and lower bills. Homes constructed in 2009 and earlier accounted for 67% of energy efficiency rebates in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

A total of 2,094,809 kWh was reduced from the GreenSense HVAC, insulation, and window rebates, which is equivalent to 1,197 metric tons of greenhouse gas equivalent (CO₂e) avoided. This CO₂e reduction for Denton's region was estimated using the US Environmental Protection Agency Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. This reduction has improved from the 725 metric tons of CO₂e reduced from the same rebates in Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

1,197 metric tons of CO₂e is equivalent to the emissions from:

- 134,651 gallons of gasoline consumed
- 1,329,248 pounds of coal burned for fuel
- 117,548 gallons of diesel consumed
- 3,047,320 miles driven by the average gasoline-powered passenger vehicle

In contrast, 1,197 metric tons of CO₂e avoided is equivalent to carbon emissions avoided by:

- 423 tons of waste recycled instead of landfilled
- 1,200 acres of U.S. forests sequestering carbon in one year



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 25, 2026
TO: Katherine Barnett, Sustainability Manager
FROM: Mike Linder, Senior Engineer
SUBJECT: Denton's Flood Risk Planning

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Denton addresses flood risk through a combination of modern development standards and targeted investments to correct historic drainage deficiencies. Many areas of the city were developed prior to the establishment of modern floodplain mapping and stormwater design criteria, resulting in recurring flooding challenges in select watersheds. Current stormwater regulations prohibit new development from increasing downstream flood risk and require either runoff detention or engineering analyses to demonstrate no adverse impacts. The City also exceeds federal floodplain standards by requiring additional building elevation and floodproofing, which contributes to reduced flood insurance costs citywide through FEMA's Community Rating System. To address existing flooding issues, the City conducts stormwater master planning and implements prioritized capital projects to reduce flood risk and improve public safety.

2.0 INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

The Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee has requested information on how flood risk is addressed in the City of Denton. Engineering staff has prepared the following memo to summarize existing flood risk within the City, how this risk is evaluated and reduced, and how modern development standards prevent future flood risk from increasing.

3.0 EXISTING DRAINAGE CONDITIONS AND HISTORIC RISK

Large portions of the City of Denton were developed prior to 1980. During this period, limited consideration was given to floodplains, and drainage design criteria were significantly less rigorous than modern engineering standards. In addition, systematic

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mapping of flood-prone areas did not begin until the 1970s with the creation of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

As a result, several areas of the city experience historic flooding challenges, particularly within the Pecan Creek and Cooper Creek watersheds. These challenges are typically associated with undersized drainage channels, structures constructed too close to waterways, and storm sewer systems that are either absent or undersized.

4.0 MODERN STORMWATER DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

Current stormwater development criteria provide substantially stronger protections to prevent new development from increasing flood risk or placing buildings in high-risk flood areas. All development within the City of Denton is prohibited from causing adverse downstream impacts, including increased flood elevations or erosive flow velocities.

To demonstrate compliance, developments are required to either:

- Perform a downstream assessment to confirm that no adverse impacts will occur, or
- Detain post-development runoff to pre-development conditions, typically through the use of detention ponds or basins.

These requirements are consistent with regional Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) guidance developed by the North Central Texas Council of Governments and ensure that future development does not exacerbate flooding in downstream areas.

In addition to meeting all federal NFIP requirements, the City of Denton has adopted higher local standards. For example, all new or substantially improved buildings within the floodplain must be elevated or floodproofed to a minimum of 30 inches above the mapped flood elevation. Developers are also required to model floodplain impacts and update FEMA floodplain maps when proposed development would alter flood risk.

These enhanced standards not only provide increased protection for residents, but they also result in a 25% reduction in flood insurance premiums for properties within the city. This discount is achieved through the City's participation in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), which rewards communities that exceed minimum floodplain management requirements.

5.0 ADDRESSING HISTORIC RISK

While modern development criteria are effective at preventing new flooding hotspots, the City continues to address areas developed under older standards that experience recurring

flooding. This work is accomplished through stormwater master planning efforts and the implementation of targeted capital improvement projects.

One example is the PEC-4 project within the Pecan Creek watershed. This multi-phase stormwater project is anticipated to remove approximately 55 acres of downtown Denton from the floodplain upon completion. Projects such as this are identified through ongoing master planning efforts and prioritized based on factors including public safety impacts, water quality benefits, opportunities to leverage external funding, and anticipated benefit relative to project cost.

Future Items Matrix: Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee

No.	REQUESTOR	DATE REQUESTED	ITEM	PRIORITY	DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED
24-02	Soph	8/23/2024	Update on adopted climate action plan, presentation on priorities and timeline for adoption of those priorities, timeline for ordinances that might be adopted	Long Term - 3	ESS
24-05	Soph	12/13/2024	Update on carbon reduction estimates for Framework Fund items	Medium Term -2	ESS
25-01	Soph	1/24/2025	Consider an Environmental Impact Study for Hunter/Cole Ranch developments, similar to Fiscal Impact Study and City's goal for Net Zero.	Long Term - 3	ESS
25-04	Soph	2/13/2025	Consider the creation of a community awareness campaign to help the city reach its CAP/Net Zero goal.	Medium Term -2	ESS, MarCom
25-15	Soph	7/25/2025	Consider Climate Risk Assessment of City's Infrastructure	Long Term - 3	Risk
25-19	Richter	8/22/2025	Requested 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.	Medium Term -2	ESS
25-23	Soph	9/26/2025	Renewable Gas Landfill Plant presentation, which was presented at the City Council meeting, be presented at an SFAC meeting.	Short Term - 1	SWR
25-25	Soph	10/24/2025	Requested to initiate future discussions on having a new value of solar study done regarding the Simply Sustainable Framework Plan.	Short Term - 1	ESS/DME
25-26	Helms	12/12/2025	Requested a presentation about small-scale nuclear power.	Medium Term -2	ESS/DME

*Short Term = 6 months

*Medium Term = 1 year

*Long Term = 1+ years