Community Progress Reports

In 2011, the City of Denton led a community-based planning effort that resulted in Simply Sustainable: A Strategic Plan for Denton’s Future. Unanimously adopted by the City Council on Feb. 7, 2012, this Plan helps guide our efforts in many different areas of sustainability. The City developed this progress report to increase transparency, accountability, and communications with the community to improve our joint capacity for making Denton a better place. This third report presents an overview of the Plan and key facts about our current status.

Denton’s Sustainability Plan is a comprehensive effort to track and improve performance in eight focus areas. Goals for each focus area were developed through the community-planning process, followed by strategies and actions to achieve the goals. To continue progress, the plan is expected to evolve over time to develop and track new strategies and actions.

A Strategic Plan for Denton’s Future

The 2012 Plan included more than 100 actions for consideration in the implementation process, but only 39 actions were reported on in 2012. Of the more than 100 actions tracked in 2016, 65 are complete and 17 are in progress. The Denton Sustainability Management and Reporting Tool (D-SMART) helps us communicate up-to-date information across departments and with the public. The graph to the right shows the status of all actions tracked in D-SMART.

Taking Action

To measure progress, the Plan identifies 31 key performance indicators (KPIs) that will help Denton measure sustainability in each of the focus areas. Our goal is to track these on an annual basis to identify trends and assess which actions are moving us closer towards our goals, as well as which ones might need rethinking. In addition to tracking completion of the actions, the D-SMART tool assists in collecting data and measuring KPI progress.

The D-SMART tool tracks 31 KPIs and shows how many are on target or need more focus, or more data.

Sustainable Denton by the Numbers

The KPIs provide a snapshot of our current sustainability status. Here are some fun facts we collected from the data:

- **44 percent** of the fuel used in 2016 by the City of Denton municipal fleet was renewable.
- The streets of Denton now have 8.5 miles of bike lanes and 9.5 miles of sharrow lanes.
- **484 rebates** were distributed to citizens for qualifying energy-efficiency improvements in their homes and businesses.
- In 2016, the City invested in expanding the number of alternative-fuel vehicles in its fleet. There are now 250 hybrid, electric, and flex fuel vehicles.
- **38,082 cubic yards** of Dyno Dirt products were sold.
- The City’s sustainability and conservation workshops educated 486 citizens.
- **3,242 pounds** of pharmaceutical waste was collected, diverting it from the landfill and waterways.
- **71 permits** were issued to local food-cottage vendors and growers for the Denton Community Market and 121 additional permits were issued to artists, craftspeople, and community groups.