TOGETHER MAKING NASHVILLE GREEN

August 2015

REPORT UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Update from the Mayor

Nashville's environment is essential to our city's character and vitality. Sustainability is about making Nashville a healthier city, a place that offers a high quality of life for residents, while also being a responsible stewards of our natural resources. It means providing green infrastructure – like greenways, bikeways, sidewalks and community centers – to promote healthy and active living. It means providing the best possible transportation options for our residents to move effectively from their homes to work, recreation and worship. It means protecting our water resources and reducing the amount of energy we consume and the waste we produce.

Over seven years ago, I issued Executive Order 33 that created a Green Ribbon Committee on Environmental Sustainability and established the role of an Environmental Sustainability Manager in the Office of the Mayor. The Green Ribbon Committee presented a unique opportunity to develop a shared vision of how to protect and enhance Nashville's distinctive environmental quality and livability. It provided a means for Nashville to harness community interest in environmental leadership and to initiate environmental policies, structures and processes to address and anticipate environmental and livability issues and enhance Nashville's overall economic, social and environmental performance.

The committee worked diligently and passionately to create the Green Ribbon Committee Report, which set 16 goals and 71 recommendations ranging from energy conservation to expanding transportation options to protecting our natural resources. Six years later, I am pleased that our city has implemented, or is in the process of implementing, 93% of these goals and recommendations (16 of the 16 goals and 65 of the 71 recommendations). The Green Ribbon Committee Report Update outlines the work we have accomplished together since the initial report in 2009. These accomplishments take us much closer to our ambitious vision for Nashville's future as the greenest city in the Southeast. Some highlights include:

General: Success in weaving sustainability into the everyday work of Metropolitan Government agencies. The city has led by example, and our community has followed by continuing to raise the level of awareness of the importance and value of the environment while inspiring sustainable lifestyles across multiple sectors.

Community: Successful community engagement initiatives and tools, including the Mayor's Workplace Challenge, the Mayor's Neighborhood Challenge, Impact Nashville, Nashville Energy Works and the NashVitality mobile app.

Waste: Metro Government has expanded curbside recycling services to approximately 125,000 households in Nashville's Urban Services District. In August 2010, the Metropolitan Council passed and Metro Public Works is implementing an updated Solid Waste Code to increase recycling, reduce waste and improve access to recycling services throughout the county. This code bans yardwaste, cardboard and electronic refuse from all waste collection. In addition, downtown street recycling was initiated and will be expanding in the Fall of 2015. Also, Metro Government now mandates recycling by its departments, and recycling has more than doubled since 2008.

Energy: The Department of General Services opened the Center of Responsible Energy in 2015. It includes a control room where energy professionals monitor Nashville's energy vital signs, including real-time energy usage at facilities, power generation and building automation systems. This concentration of live data helps General Services reduce operating costs and enables capital improvement forecasting.

Buildings: Metro has built and renovated 23 buildings to LEED Silver or greater levels of certification, with an additional nine buildings on track to earn at least LEED Silver certification. Highlights include the Bridge Building, which received the highest level of LEED Platinum certification in the area of Core and Shell, and the Music City Center, which earned LEED Gold certification.

Infrastructure: In October 2010, I signed an Executive Order formalizing Nashville's "Complete Streets" policy, which ensures that public streets are built to accommodate all modes of transportation, including walking, bicycling and mass transit. Metro Public Works has integrated this policy into each road project. Nashville currently has five major complete streets: Deaderick, 28th Avenue Connector, 48th Avenue and Murphy Road Roundabout, Korean Veterans Boulevard and 11th Avenue South.

Active Transportation: Added over 200 miles of sidewalks and 97 miles of bikeways resulting in approximately 1,070 sidewalk miles and 157 of bikeway miles, incuding shared routes and dedicated lanes; the launch of Nashville B-Cycle with 30 bike stations and 238 bright red bicycles; the creation of the Music City Bikeway; and expansion of BRT Lite on four MTA routes.

Open Space and Greenways: A key goal of the Open Space Plan to acquire 3,000 more acres of open space by 2021, has been achieved by conserving a total of 4,534 acres of open space, increasing parkland by 25 percent and increasing greenways by 50 percent, with 40 miles of new trails.

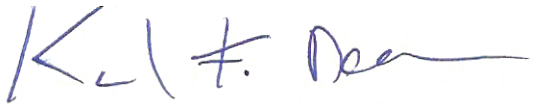
Natural Resources: The Metropolitan Landscape Coordination Program was created to develop a strategic plan toward coordinated landscape guidelines and best management practices, as well as the hiring of the city's first horticulturist position.

Water: More than 45 miles of streams have been completely removed from the 303(d) list. Other successes include the development of Nashville's award-winning Low-Impact Development Manual, the city's green roof rebate program, stormwater and water/sewer infrastructure enhancements, Nashville Waterway Recovery and Restoration initiative, and Cities of Service Green Alley program.

Awards: In December 2013 Nashville received the Platinum rating from Tennessee Valley Authority's "Valley Sustainable Communities" program for making a significant and comprehensive commitment to sustainability and thoroughly integrating economic development into our sustainability efforts. Nashville has also been designated as a Bicycle Friendly City by the League of American Cyclists.

These successes toward greening our city engaged the active participation of many hands and hearts representing both the public and private sectors. These achievements would not have been possible without the leadership, partnership and support of Metro agencies, organizations, businesses and our citizens.

I am thankful to the Green Ribbon Committee and our partners for all the work they have done to move closer to a vision of Nashville as a place with clean air, clean water and open spaces – qualities that make us a vibrant, welcoming community. But the work is only beginning; the responsibility for realizing a sustainable future is truly in the hands of all our citizens.



Karl F. Dean

Mayor

16 goals

The city has implemented, or is in the process of implementing, 93% of the Green Ribbon Committee's goals and recommendations (16 of the 16 goals and 65 of the 71 recommendations).

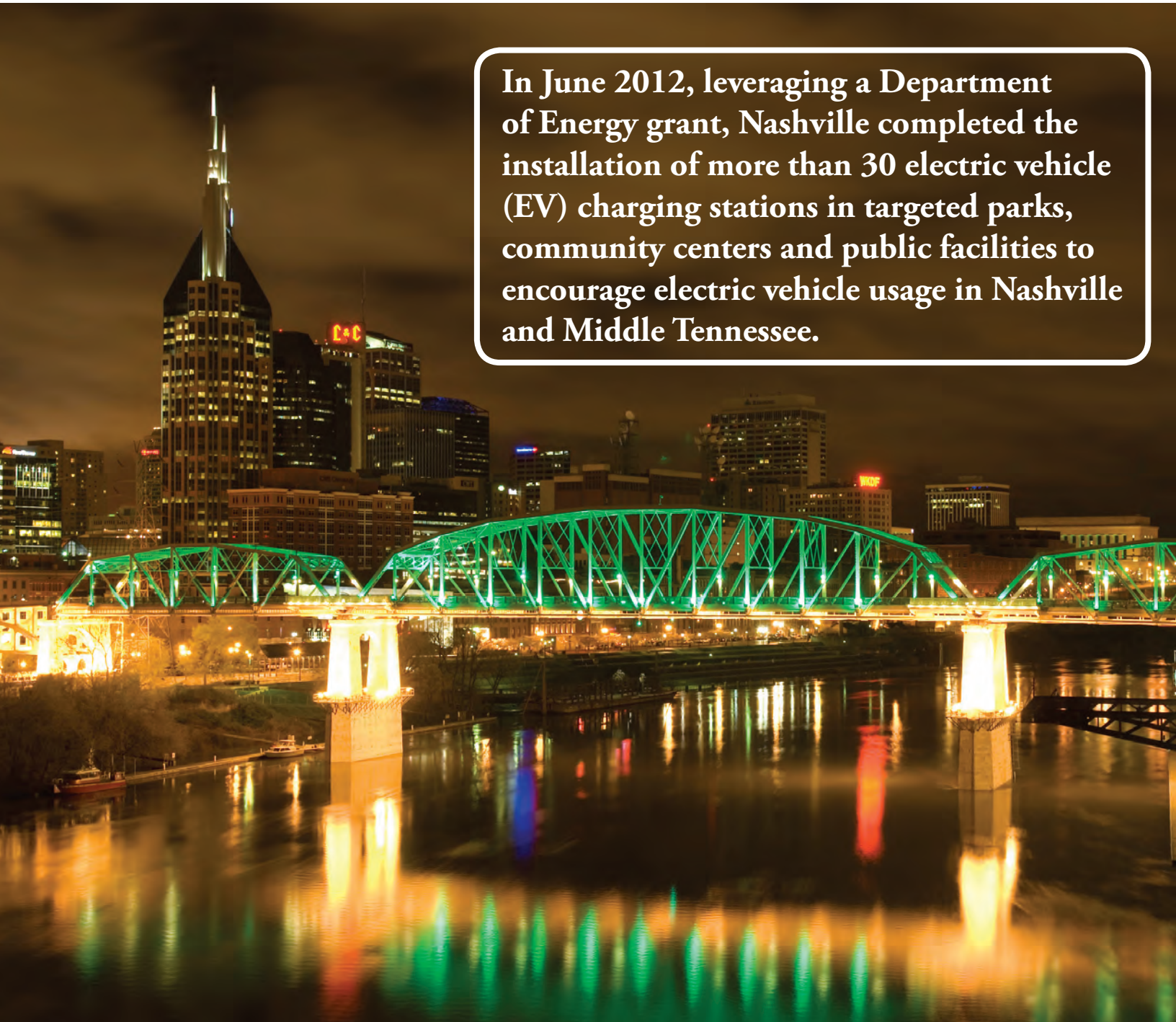
71 recommendations

The Mayor's Green Ribbon Committee on Environmental Sustainability

Co-Chairs: John Ingram and Randy Lowry

Subcommittee Co-Chairs: Alicia Batson, M.D., Michael Blosser, Gary Gaston, Jennifer Hagan-Dier, Decosta Jenkins, Skip Lawrence, Greer Tidwell and Tiffany Wilmot.

Committee Members: Linda Breggin, Laurel Creech, Anne Davis, Tom Hardin, Doug Hausken, Jamie D. Isabel, Sr., Lawrence Jackson, Ellen Jacobson, M.D., Bert Mathews, Diane Miller Mulloy, Diane Neighbors, Jean Nelson, Mike Pearigen, Dave Pelton, Steve Turner, Rose Wang and David Williams.



In June 2012, leveraging a Department of Energy grant, Nashville completed the installation of more than 30 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in targeted parks, community centers and public facilities to encourage electric vehicle usage in Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

Greenhouse Gases

1 Goal

3 Recommendations

Education & Outreach

5 Goals

18 Recommendations

Energy & Building

3 Goals

25 Recommendations

Mobility

1 Goal

11 Recommendations

Natural Resources

6 Goals

14 Recommendations

Timeline

Reduce Greenhouse Gases

Greenhouse Gases

In 2009, Nashville conducted a first-ever greenhouse gas inventory to analyze the sources and quantities of carbon dioxide and other emissions, both from the city of Nashville and from Metro Nashville governmental operations specifically. Using baseline data from 2005 a determination was made, that Nashville's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions stood at 14.4 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalents, or CO2e (Greenhouse gases contribute to the "greenhouse effect" by absorbing infrared radiation). This number revealed that each Nashvillian, on average, was responsible for 23.9 tons of CO2e, slightly above the U.S. average of 23.8 tons per capita annually.

Since the 2009 initial GHG report, Metro Nashville -- along with the private sector -- has worked aggressively to reduce emissions through numerous efforts, including building infrastructure to LEED standards, increasing green infrastructure, adding more efficient fleet vehicles and promoting alternative transportation. In Metro Government, as part of Nashville's carbon offset program, Metro funded automated meter reading systems in buildings across the city in order to lessen the need for in-person meter readings and reduce GHG emissions from Metro's vehicle fleet. With programs like this in place, Metro was able to decrease emissions from its fleet 63% from 2011 to 2012, contributing to a total reduction in GHG emissions from all Davidson County transportation by 39% between 2005 and 2011. Additionally, through the implementation of internal Metro policies and external advocacy tools, Nashville was able to achieve a 67% reduction in GHG emissions from public buildings.

While Nashville has made great strides toward increased efficiency and decreased GHG emissions, efforts continue to enhance the resiliency of Middle Tennessee though the Nashville Area MPO's Climate Solutions University program. This year-long curriculum helps to guide local communities create adaptation plans relating to climatic and development risks by analyzing the impact of these changes and seeking solutions.

GOAL: Reduce Metropolitan Government's greenhouse gas emmissions back to 2005 levels by 2012, reduce 20%

1. Develop a multi-year Nashville themed campaign about the correlation between behaviors and greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Create a Nashville Carbon Offset program to fund specified local green projects designed to "offset" greenhouse gas emissions and help the city in reaching its emission reduction goals.
3. Require Metro agencies to incorporate climate protection criteria and actions into their planning activities, budgeting and performance measures.

Implemented · In Progress · Needs Improvement

Build a Culture of Sustainability

Education & Outreach

In response to the Green Ribbon Committee's goal to "Build a Culture of Sustainability" – many public initiatives have been launched by Metro Government to help educate, inform, engage and energize the Nashville community.

The Green Ribbon Committee's focus on Education and Outreach began with the intention of getting "all Nashvillians to care for and connect with Nashville's natural resources for future generations." The Committee believed that programs aimed at building a culture of sustainability in Nashville should focus on the following three platforms:

- Educating future generations through curriculum, outdoor education and greener operations;
- Inspiring our community through a one-stop shop website, and engaging in friendly competition; and
- Leading by example (e.g. the Green Ribbon Committee, Metro Government and the business community).

Notable advancements since the Plan's release include:

- Mayor's Workplace Challenge: Launched in 2012, the program seeks to encourage businesses and other organizations to promote health, community service and environmental sustainability in the workplace. The Challenge consists of a self-assessment, and three scorecards focused on health, environment and volunteer engagement. Businesses are rated on a scale from Bronze to Diamond.
- Impact Nashville: As part of the national coalition of Cities of Service, "Impact Nashville" is the city's local service plan that leverages institutional and cultural capital through impactful volunteerism in the following priority areas: Public education and the environment. Project successes include Team Dean Reading Coaches, Green Alley Project, and Waterway Recovery and Restoration initiative.
- NashVitality: Launched in 2012, this initiative was led by the Mayor's Office and Metro's Public Health Department. A web-based portal for community-wide information dissemination was introduced and strategies for environmental change within government, schools, work sites, neighborhoods and places of worship were implemented. Project successes include: An interactive mobile app with a guide to being healthy, active and green.

Healthy Living Initiatives: Understanding the role that healthy living plays in Nashville's environmental sustainability, Mayor Dean developed a two-pronged approach to encourage Nashville residents to lead healthy and active lives:

- Invest in the development and expansion of healthy infrastructure, including expanded bike lanes, greenways, parks, sidewalks and community centers.
- Create a series of community health initiatives, – such as the Walk 100 Miles with the Mayor, Mayor's Challenge 5K, Mayor's Field Day and Open Streets Nashville events.

GOAL: Build a culture of sustainability

1. Expand current Green Team and identify an "Environmental Steward" or "Green Team" for all Metro Departments to set and track environmental goals annually.
2. Require a "Green Education" component as a part of Metro's Human Resources training program and encourage a similar program for teacher in-service.
3. Implement program at libraries to highlight environmental activities and books during a focused period of time (e.g., April as "Earth Month").
4. Create a Green Business Roundtable and a "Green Your Business" education program, working with the Chamber of Commerce, with the goal of Nashville buildings and businesses becoming green and healthy.
5. Establish a Metropolitan Government agency for environmental and sustainability policy with authority, accountability and funding (a board, director and staff) to keep a permanent focus on environmental/green issues.
6. Develop a Green Jobs Training Program that would help Nashville's workforce be prepared to meet the demands of a growing green economy.
7. Adopt the Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership (TP3) program for Metropolitan Government's operational facilities (e.g., utilities, Police and Fire stations, health care, Parks and Public Works).
8. Establish a sustainability education program for builders, contractors and developers.
9. Establish a Center for Sustainability Education and Green Building Design as a public/private partnership that would showcase and provide education on green building practices.

GOAL: Establish a "green tourism" program with Nashville's citywide emphasis on being green recognized as part of the city's popular image

1. Establish a "Green Speakers Bureau" beginning with a core group of environmental leaders.
2. Create a comprehensive website for promoting sustainability.
3. Establish a wide-ranging green public relations and education campaign.

GOAL: Embrace and celebrate good examples of sustainable living

1. Create a "Green Neighborhood Program" that would foster a positive, competitive spirit among neighborhoods across the city to be cleaner and greener.
2. Provide a "Green Operations Support and Education" fact sheet to everyone applying for a business license.

GOAL: Support and encourage environmental education in our schools to instill upon future generations a sense of love and responsibility for our natural resources

1. Appoint a curriculum coordinator within Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) for conservation and environmental education.
2. Include all MNPS in the Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Program.
3. Provide an outdoor classroom area for every Metro public school.

GOAL: All Nashvillians should actively connect with and care for our natural resources

1. Implement a Mayor's "Green Note Leadership Award Program" for recognizing outstanding green leaders. Consider multiple award categories, such as churches, schools, neighborhoods and businesses.

Implemented · In Progress · Needs Improvement

Conserve Energy, Reduce Waste, Green our Buildings

Energy & Building

In response to the Green Ribbon Committee's goal to reduce the city's energy use by 20% by 2020, Mayor Dean created/ supported programs to address Davidsons County's entire community energy profile. The Mayor's Office has made great strides in implementing residential energy efficiency programs across the city, cutting down on the energy use of homes throughout Nashville. Nashville Energy Works, launched in April 2011 and works in partnership with the Mayor's Office, TVA and NES to conduct home energy evaluations, providing homeowners with a list of upgrades and financial implementation incentives to achieve a minimum of 15% energy savings. Local Go Green neighborhood campaigns raised awareness of this initiative, and additional campaigns such as Change for Chestnut helped Metro and Hands On Nashville work together to bring home efficiency upgrades to low-income neighborhoods across Nashville.

Metro Nashville has taken several steps to promote green building practices and low-impact development. The Clean Water Infrastructure Program provided for an increase in funding for green infrastructure projects by raising water rates. Additionally, Metro passed the Green Building Permit and Green Certificate of Occupancy Ordinance in June 2008, ensuring that all new public or publicly-funded buildings would meet LEED Silver or higher certification standards. These efforts, among many others, led to Nashville's recognition as a "Local Leader in Sustainability" in 2009 by the American Institute of Architects.

Nashville has also made significant progress on reducing waste across Davidson County. Beginning in 2007, the Mayor's Office challenged Metro departments to reduce their waste and improve their recycling practices. These practices led to an annual increase in Metro Government's recycling by more than 130% since 2007. Additionally, Metro provided 6,800 recycling bins to Nashville schools and added 28 pedestrian recycling containers downtown. In addition, Metro began annually updating its solid waste codes in 2011, adding restrictions to the disposal of yard waste, cardboard and electronic waste in curbside recycling containers. Outreach initiatives such as the "Bag It!" pet waste program and partnerships to promote recycling with Coca Cola and local media partners have also been implemented to educate the community on proper waste disposal.

GOAL: Reduce energy use by 5% by 2012 and 20% by 2020

1. Implement a Mayor's Environmental Pledge Program that would allow citizens to commit to taking five steps toward creating a healthier, cleaner environment for everyone.
2. Implement program at NES to switch from petroleum oil to soybean-based oil for transformers used city wide.
3. Issue window stickers that provide free meter parking for clean technology vehicles.

4 Develop a Metropolitan Government sustainability program that incorporates healthy and efficient building practices (beyond weather stripping) into affordable housing practices.

5 Develop an Energy Use Reduction Policy for Metropolitan Government to conserve energy and encourage businesses to do the same.

6 Develop a Metropolitan Government Green Fleet program to expand the use of electric vehicles, hybrids and bio-diesel to help diversify energy supplies, decrease emissions and support regional economic activity.

7 Adopt an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system for NES residential customers that would enable them to manage their energy consumption and conservation efforts.

GOAL: Reduce waste in Davidson County by 35% by 2012 and by 65% by 2020.

1 Develop a plan to increase the number of recycling drop-off sites, especially in the General Services District.

2 Provide incentives for private waste haulers to offer recycling collection.

3 Increase the number of downtown recycling containers for pedestrians.

4 Develop and implement a city-wide program for recycling construction and demolition debris.

5 Implement a food waste composting program for large producers of food waste.

6 Require business and industry to divert fiber, e-waste, yard waste, wood (e.g., pallets) and metals from landfills.

7 Provide recycling at all multi-family dwellings in the Urban Services District.

8 Ensure adequate and convenient recycling containers available at all Metropolitan Government buildings, city-owned sites and city-sponsored functions.

9 Implement a "Pay as You Throw" utility program for solid waste disposal in Davidson County.

GOAL: Reduce environmental impacts of buildings through green building practices.

1 Establish a "Green Building Challenge" to publicize Metropolitan Government's green building practices and encourage Nashville's top 50 businesses to meet Energy Star by 2012 and LEED Existing Building (with a focus on water usage) by 2020.

2 Provide private-sector green building incentives, including expedited plans and reviews, high-density bonuses and fee rebates.

3 Consolidate the operation and maintenance of most Metropolitan Government buildings and create a new Metro energy manager position and use Energy Service Company (ESCO) to reduce energy.

4 Develop and implement a "White Roof" campaign encouraging businesses to paint or replace existing or new roofs with highly reflective ones.

5 Complete a solar installation at a high-profile public building in Nashville.

6 Adopt the Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP) program for Metropolitan Government-wide consumables, durable goods and equipment.

7 Retrofit 10 existing Metropolitan Government buildings to attain LEED Existing Buildings (EB) Silver certification, or comparable third party verified system, and initiate a program for retrofitting 50%.

8 All new public or publicly-funded buildings and building renovations should be LEED Silver certified or comparable third party verified system.

9 Encourage all new commercial and residential buildings to meet Energy Star by 2012 and LEED Silver certified or comparable third party verified system by 2020.

Implemented In Progress Needs Improvement

Expand Transportation Options

Mobility

A recommendation of the Green Ribbon Committee is to provide every citizen of Davidson County with at least two modes of available and accessible transportation in order to reach work, school, worship, recreation and other basic necessities. As Nashville continues to grow, transportation alternatives will become increasingly critical to city and regional sustainability, quality of life and economic competitiveness.

Under Mayor Dean's leadership, Nashville has moved forward with transit solutions through a mix of local and regional approaches. In October 2010, Mayor Dean issued Executive Order 40, instituting a Complete Streets policy to ensure that all public streets are built to accommodate all modes of transportation, including walking, biking and mass transit. Five significant Complete Streets have been constructed, including the 28th Avenue Connector and Korean Veterans Boulevard.

Complementary to improving Nashville's streetscape for all modes of transit is the city's efforts to expand and enhance its greenway and trail systems. More than 40 miles of new greenways were added under Mayor Dean's leadership, providing more than 90% of Nashvillians with a greenway or trail within two miles of their home. Not only does this system provide additional transportation options to Nashville residents, but it also protects sensitive natural areas and enhances public space in Nashville.

Significant progress has been made on the Green Ribbon Committee's other recommendations. Active transit has been promoted through the founding of Nashville B-Cycle bike-sharing program, the creation of the NashVitality app, and significant spending on sidewalk and bike lane installation. As a result of these significant accomplishments, Nashville was named a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly City in 2012. The establishment of the Mayor's Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee in 2008 ensures that walkability and bicycle access remain priorities going forward. Similarly, NashvilleNext, Metro Planning Department's long-range development plan, has spurred conversation and progress around transit in Nashville, keeping long-term mobility solutions at the forefront of Nashville's agenda.

GOAL: Provide every citizen with at least two modes of available and accessible transportation.

1. All Metropolitan Government departments must consider state-of-the-art thinking and technologies in all mid-term and long-term planning.
2. Promote and expand existing programs by Metropolitan Government, businesses and organizations to reduce commuter traffic, such as MTA's EasyRide, van pool and car pool programs and park and ride locations.
3. Choose a highly visible and tangible mobility initiative, and complete it in 2009, such as offering classes on essential safety skills for riding a bicycle on the street.
4. Working with the regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), generate support for enabling legislation to establish dedicated funding authority for mass transit in the region.
5. Implement mechanisms to apply the new dedicated funding authority in support of mass transit, in coordination with other MPO members in the region.
6. Make mass transit and active transportation programs of MTA and other relevant Metro agencies and departments an integral part of the Metro planning and zoning process and formalize a process to coordinate and implement mass transit and active transportation projects.
7. Allocate a percentage of all related departmental budgets to be set aside to fund alternative modes of transportation, raising the priority of sidewalks, bike routes and lanes and greenways.
8. Provide downtown circulator service to transport employees, residents and visitors to retail, restaurants, entertainment venues, parking and places of business within the downtown area.
9. Establish affordable high-frequency and high-capacity reliable transportation options for every Nashville and Davidson County citizen, employee or visitor.
10. Implement a plan to redirect pass-through traffic from the downtown corridor.
11. Design, develop and implement regional mass transit system to serve major population corridors and activity centers.

Implemented · In Progress · Needs Improvement

The NashVitality app harnesses technology to promote bicycling and other activities toward making Nashville a healthy, active and green city. The innovative tool features interactive maps for residents and visitors to access information on trails, greenways, bikeways and areas across Nashville to be active.

Protect our Environmental Assets

Natural Resources

Central to Nashville's identity, culture, and quality of life are the natural resources that make up Davidson County. The preservation and enhancement of these assets, such as our waterways, parks and open spaces, air quality and food systems, are key to the long-term sustainability of Nashville.

The creation of the Mayor's Open Space Advisory Committee ensured that Nashville's open space needs would be met. The addition of more than 4,500 acres of new parkland, 14 new parks, and six park expansions has increased parkland by 25% and expanded Nashville's greenway system by 50% since the founding of the Open Space Committee. Significant achievements include the addition of 568 acres to Beaman Park in August 2015, and the acquisition of 591 acres of open space in southeast Nashville, which will be used to establish an anchor park in that quadrant of Davidson County. These accomplishments surpass the Open Space Master Plan's goal to acquire 3,000 more acres of open space by 2021. Nashville's Open Space Master Plan further calls for the continued enhancement of parkland in Davidson County, with the goal of preserving 22,000 acres across Nashville by 2035.

In tandem with the preservation of open space across Davidson County, Nashville is also making progress on establishing a robust local food system. The Nashville Farmers' Market hosts space for more than 100 farmers and artisans and switched to a local-only merchant policy in January 2015, emphasizing the importance of sourcing its products from those who live and work in Middle Tennessee. Additionally, more than a half-dozen satellite markets are open throughout the summer, bringing fresh, local goods directly to Nashville's neighborhoods. Significant educational programs have been implemented to teach local residents about the importance of healthy, regionally-sourced foods, including the Nashville Farmers' Market's Grow Local Kitchen, Hands On Nashville's Urban Farm and Crop City, a food-focused educational summer camp for local children.

Nashville's air and water quality has improved over the past several years. In August 2009, Metro Water Services designated a Low Impact Development (LID) Coordinator to improve building site standards with respect to stormwater runoff. Additional public-private partnerships have made it possible to plant more than 300 rain gardens and plant over 12,000 trees, adopt 16 segments of local streams and educate 70,000 residents on water quality, working to improve awareness of water-related issues and concretely enhance water quality in Nashville. In an effort to improve Nashville's overall air quality, ongoing work is being done by Metro Planning Department to further reduce vehicle miles traveled, especially during peak hours.

GOAL: Design and implement the most progressive open space plan in the Southeast.

1. Hire a professional firm to develop an open space plan for Davidson County with an aggressive timeline for implementation.

GOAL: Link land use planning with open space planning and transportation planning.

1. Create a "Smart Growth Task Force" to develop a community sustainability plan that incorporates smart growth principles into Metropolitan Government's goals, policies, codes and ordinances.

GOAL: Develop and maintain an urban forest program.

1. Develop a Memorandum of Understanding among Metropolitan Government agencies delineating and allocating tree planting, care and maintenance by Metropolitan Government.
2. Fund and perform a tree canopy assessment.
3. Develop and implement an Urban Forest Management Plan.

GOAL: Develop a locally-based food system.

1. Engage government leaders and residents in the preservation and enhancement of urban and rural farming.
2. Initiate a planned strategy for city-wide urban agriculture by providing funding for a full-time urban agricultural specialist with the responsibility of providing educational programming and resource information for community food gardens, Metro school gardens, and backyard and rooftop gardens.
3. Implement a Metropolitan Government-led Farm to School program that incorporates locally-grown fresh produce into the MNPS lunch program with a Middle Tennessee foodshed asset map as an essential first step.

GOAL: Move 100% of Nashville's streams off the federal 303(d) list of impaired waters by 2020 with measurable progress by 2012.

1. Adopt full-cost pricing for drinking water.
2. Create a dedicated source of funding for stormwater control by implementing a stormwater user fee charged to residential and commercial properties in Nashville and Davidson County.
3. Rename Metro Water Services, the Department of Watershed Management.
4. Increase the utilization of Low Impact Development (LID) techniques and encourage Better Site Design (BSD) on all new or significantly redeveloped sites in Nashville.
5. Improve protection of the watersheds in Davidson County by honoring the natural flood plain and stream buffers, which will result in improved water quality, acceleration of Nashville's greenways system and myriad environmental benefits.

GOAL: Meet and outperform the national standards for air quality.

1. Meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) by 2015. By 2020, air quality improvements will lead to outperforming the NAAQS limits by 10%.

Implemented · In Progress · Needs Improvement

Green Building Permit & Green Certificate of Occupancy ordinance signed. Mandates that all new publicly funded construction must have a minimum of LEED Silver certification.

MTA begins RideShare program for Metro Employees.

Green Ribbon Committee holds five public meetings throughout Davidson County to elicit ideas on making Nashville green; over 300 people participate.

Mayor Commissions Downtown Tree Master Plan.

First Green Permit issued.

Completion of first Greenhouse Gas Inventory of Metro Nashville and Davidson County.

2008

2009

Mayor signs Executive Order 33, appointing Environmental Sustainability Manager and creating the Green Ribbon Committee.

Mayor signs Executive Order 34 Creating Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Council passes ordinance requiring green infrastructure to improve stormwater absorption and infiltration downtown.

Metropolitan Health Department completes baseline greenhouse gas inventory for Metropolitan Nashville, showing a decrease in overall greenhouse gas emissions from the 2005 baseline inventory.

NASHVILLE'S GREEN

Clean Water Infrastructure Program signed.

Nashville is flagship city for World Wildlife Federation's EarthHour 2009.

Nashvitality, a local campaign promoting healthy, active and green living, was established through a $7.5 million grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Metro Government updates the solid waste code, creating a long-term plan for increased recycling in Nashville.

MTA began running a free circulator service for people who live, work, or visit the downtown area.

Mayor Dean signs Executive Order 40 formalizing Nashville's "Complete Streets" policy, to ensure that public streets accommodate multiple modes of transportation.

Mayor Dean and Land Trust for Tennessee unveils the Nashville Open Space Master Plan, a plan to preserve open spaces in the Nashville area.

2010

2011

Green Ribbon Committee presents 16 goals and 71 recomm-endations to Mayor Dean.

Green Ribbon Committee releases *Together Making Nashville Green.*

Mayor Dean and Public Works celebrate "green street" methods, such as bioswales and porous concrete in sidewalk on Deaderick Street, which connects Legislative Plaza to Public Square.

The Downtown Code is enacted, providing standards for new construction progress to support sustainable and desirable development.

Downtown Tree Canopy Assessment completed, laying the groundwork for a more comprehensive tree planting and maintenance program.

Mayor Dean and representatives from TVA launches Nashville Energy Works (NEW), a residential energy efficiency program.

Mayor Dean signs Executive Order 42, creating the Metropolitan Landscape Coordination Program (MLCP) for Metro tree care and maintenance.

RIBBON TIMELINE

2012

26-mile Music City Bikeway is completed, providing bicycle riders a bikeway and greenway from Percy Warner Park to Percy Priest Lake.

Nashville completes the EV project, installing more than 30 electrical vehicle (EV) charging stations in parks, community centers and public facilities.

Opening of the 28th Avenue Connector, Nashville's second Complete Street with bike lanes, public art and low impact development features. The connector unites West End and North Nashville.

Mayor Dean launches Workplace Challenge to encourage businesses and organizations to promote health, community involvement and environmental responsibility.

League of American Bicyclists names Nashville a Bronze level "Bicycle Friendly City."

Metro Public Works begins converting Nashville's traffic signals to LED.

2013

Metro acquires 600 acres of open space on the Stones River and along the Stones River Greenway.

Music City Center opens as a US Green Building Council LEED Gold certified convention center.

Nashville earns platinum rating as leader in Tennessee Valley Authority Sustainable Communities Program.

Nashville B-Cycle Launched. Mayor Dean and Downtown Nashville Partnership unveils a new fee-based bike share program designed for a low-cost, convenient and healthy transportation option.

Bridge Building receives highest score in the world with a US Green Building Council LEED Platinum certification in the area of Core and Shell.

Nashville hosts its first Open Streets event and celebrates the 11th Avenue Complete Street project. Mayor Dean leads the inaugural Open Streets event with more than 2,000 walkers, cyclists and other active participants in the Gulch. The event showcased the new Complete Street with greenways, mini-park and a new multi-use path with dedicated bike lanes and sidewalks.

Over 95 organizations achieve bronze or a higher level of recognition for the second annual Workplace Challenge Awards Ceremony.

Metro Public works adds its First Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) truck to its service.

First Tennessee Park is certified by the USGBC as a LEED Silver baseball stadium.

Ascend Amphitheater on track to become LEED Gold certified.

21st - Broadway - Division Street Intersection and Pedestrian Enhancement Project improves pedestrian and vehicular safety and operations through the intersection.

2014

2015

Coming Soon

Metro hires bike-ped coordinator to monitor bike grants, review development proposals, resolve bike complaints, maintain state/federal standards at Metro and coordinate bike projects and functions with other internal/ external organizations.

Mayor Dean announces City's First Green Alley Project in The Nations neighborhood.

Metro acquires 591 acres in Southeast Davidson County and 568 acres in Northeast Davidson County to be preserved as open space.

Grand Opening of West Riverfront Park and Amphitheater with greenway trails, gardens, custom swings, exercise and sports facilities and Nashville's first downtown dog park.

Davidson Street Multipath Complete Street project opens, providing an 8-12" wide multi-use path to protect and buffer bicycle and pedestrian users from traffic. The 1.75-mile stretch is Nashville's longest protected path.

On-Street recycling containers for pedestrians in the downtown area expands from 21 recycling/trash containers to a total of 175.

Together Making Nashville Green

www.nashville.gov/sustainability