

GREENSBURG GREEN TOWN

Greensburg, Kansas, U.S



Size: 1.5 miles², 785 residents

Dates: 2007 planning, 2008-ongoing construction, 2009 wind farm construction

Team: Town officials, BNIM, Greensburg Greentown

Description: In 2007, the town of Greensburg was destroyed by a tornado. Afterwards, residents worked with planners to develop a comprehensive sustainability plan to re-envision Greensburg as a resilient community

Intent: Make it easier for residents to live sustainable lifestyles, engage residents in the process, make Greensburg a model town

S
Sit+Place

GOALS: (Food) Agriculture tourism plan ; (Habitat+Biodiversity) 20% of lots must consist of permeable surfaces or open space ; (Transport) Not defined

STRATEGIES: (Food) Not reported ; (Habitat+Biodiversity) Greywater retention and filtration through landscaping, innovative landscaping, native prairie species, green way corridor, conservation areas, and stream restoration ; (Transport) Bicycle infrastructure, landscaped surface lots with permeable paving, hybrid vehicle parking, E-85 biodiesel facilities, promote a pedestrian downtown, on street parking, minimal surface parking lots

W
Water

GOALS: Zero storm water runoff

STRATEGIES: Use of efficient appliances, bioswales to collect and filter water, collect and store storm water for re-use for non-potable uses, allow for infiltration, promote water conserving irrigation for agriculture, planning for 100 year floods, permeable pavement

E
Energy

GOALS: 100% renewable energy, net exporter of energy, buildings 50% more efficient than code

STRATEGIES: 12.5MW wind farm, net metering, efficiency goals for new construction and renovations, homes use 40-50% less energy to operate, LED street lights, geothermal for select buildings, biomass, Architecture guidelines in master plan, 2-3 story buildings for downtown, LEED platinum for city buildings and schools

E
Equity

Percentage of affordable units: Not defined

GOALS: Affordable rural community

STRATEGIES: Solar orientation and innovative daylighting strategies, downtown development has increased density, community engagement including younger residents in design proposals, resident education on sustainable infrastructure, walkable downtown, community engagement in planning, aesthetics of development matching resident preferences landscaping, disaster planning

M
Materials

GOALS: (Materials) Built to last 100+ years ; (Waste) Not defined

STRATEGIES: (Materials) Materials selected for durability, low maintenance, certain buildings promote reclaimed materials, materials selected for low-no toxicity or VOC content, locally sourced preference, recycled content or recyclable preference ; (Waste) Single stream curb side recycling

SUSTAINABILITY MATRIX

		STANDARD	GOOD	BETTER	LIVING COMMUNITY	REGENERATIVE
S Site+Place	Limits to growth			Built on greyfield of brown-field, developed for density, conserves habitat land		
	Urban Ag		Some community garden space			
	Habitat Exchange			Constructed wetlands, land set aside, native plantings, 25% + of developable space is undeveloped		
	Human Powered Living			Walkable streets, bicycle infrastructure, public transit links, car sharing, EV charging stations, easy access to services		
W Water	Net Positive Water		Some stormwater reuse or infiltration, grey water recycling, conservation goals			
	Net Positive Energy			2030 standards of efficiency, advanced construction techniques, ongoing monitoring to meet goals, net +ve energy, carbon neutral goals, 100% renewable energy		
E Energy	Civilized Environment			Community has some organization and collaborates on 1-2 of the living community listed programs		
	Healthy Neighborhood Design			Access to walking and bike trails connecting amenities, parks, recreation areas		
	Biophilic Environment				Innovative landscaping, designed to include elements that encourage human/nature connection, aesthetic design	
	Resilient Community Connections					All residents know and understand the emergency plan & their role in a response
H Health+ Happiness	Living Material Plan			Rigorous material selection standards, material plan made available to public		
	Embodied Carbon Footprint			Material selection requirements, proxy standards for reducing CO2 in material selection and construction on-going energy monitoring		
	Net Positive Waste		Material selection for recycled/recyclable materials, waste collection facilities, reduction standards			
	Human Scale and Humane Places			Project is designed to create human-scaled places, promotes culture & interaction		
M Materials	Universal Access to Nature and Place			Access to parks, Innovative landscaping, promotes sense of place, community agriculture, daylighting in buildings		
	Universal Access to Community Services		Some services & community centers in development accessible by bike or walking			
	Equitable Investment		Some contribution to non-profits or charity organizations			
E Equity	Beauty and Spirit					
	Inspiration and Education				Educational website, brochures, education on buildings, landscaping & infrastructure, case study, metering, ongoing improvements	
B Beauty						

SOURCES:

<http://www.greensburggreentown.org/>
<http://www.sustainable.org/creating-community/building-partnerships/1707-greensburg-green-town-kansas>
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126833862>
<http://www.bnim.com/project/greensburg-ks-sustainable-comprehensive-master-plan>



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