

Greensburg Greentown

Greensburg, Kansas, U.S.



Size:

1.5 miles², 785 residents

Dates:



2007 planning; 2009 wind farm construction; 2008 – ongoing construction






Project Team:

Town officials, BNIM, Greensburg Greentown

In 2007, the town of Greensburg was destroyed by a tornado. Afterward, residents worked with planners to develop a comprehensive sustainability plan to re-envision Greensburg as a resilient community. The goal of the project is to make it easier for residents to live sustainable lifestyles, engage in the planning process, and make Greensburg a model town.

Goals & Strategies

 Place	
Food	<p>Goals: Agriculture tourism plan.</p> <p>Strategies: Strategies not reported.</p>
Habitat	<p>Goals: 20% of lots must consist of permeable surfaces or open space.</p> <p>Strategies: Greywater retention and filtration through landscaping. Innovative landscaping. Native prairie species. Greenway corridor, conservation areas, and stream restoration.</p>
Transportation	<p>Goals: Goals not defined.</p> <p>Strategies: Bicycle infrastructure. Landscaped surface lots with permeable paving. Hybrid vehicle parking. E-85 biodiesel facilities. Pedestrian-oriented downtown. On-street parking; minimal surface parking lots.</p>
 Water	
Water	<p>Goals: Zero stormwater runoff.</p> <p>Strategies: Use of efficient appliances. Bioswales to collect and filter water. Collect and store stormwater for reuse for non-potable uses. Allow for infiltration. Promote water-conserving irrigation for agriculture. Permeable pavement.</p>

 Energy	
Energy	<p>Goals: 100% renewable energy. Net exporter of energy. Buildings 50% more efficient than code.</p> <p>Strategies: 12.5 MW 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.</p>
 Health + Happiness (Details not provided by researchers)	
 Materials	
Material Plan	<p>Goals: Built to last 100 years.</p> <p>Strategies: Materials selected for low- or non-toxicity or VOC content. Locally-sourced preference. Recycled content or recyclable preference.</p>
Embodied Energy & Carbon	<p>Goals: Goals not defined.</p> <p>Strategies: Materials selected for durability, low maintenance.</p>
Waste	<p>Goals: Goals not defined.</p> <p>Strategies: Single-stream curbside recycling.</p>
 Equity	
Neighborhood & Access	<p>Goals: Affordable rural community.</p> <p>Strategies: Downtown development with increased density. Community engagement including younger residents in design proposals. Walkable downtown. Development aesthetics match resident preferences.</p>
Access to Nature	<p>Goals: Goals not defined.</p> <p>Strategies: Solar orientation and innovative daylighting strategies.</p>
Access to Community Services	<p>Goals: Goals not defined.</p> <p>Strategies: Resident education on sustainable infrastructure.</p>
 Beauty (Details not provided by researchers)	

> See next page for Performance Levels achieved

Performance Levels Achieved:

	Standard	Good	Better	Living	Regenerative
Place					
Limits to Growth					
Food					
Habitat					
Transportation					
Water					
Energy					
Health + Happiness					
Civilized Environment					
Neighborhood Design					
Biophilia					
Resilient Connections					
Materials					
Material Plan					
Embodied Energy & Carbon					
Waste					
Equity					
Neighborhood & Access					
Access to Nature					
Access to Community Services					
Investment					
Beauty					
Beauty & Spirit	Not specified				
Inspiration					

Sources:

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

**Note: This case study was developed using found information.*

21st Century Development is a model for the creation of regenerative communities that strives to provide a healthy environment for all people and living systems now and in a dynamic future.

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