Staying up with Sustainability!

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What does sustainability really mean?
Texas A&M’s 2018 Sustainability Master Plan identifies these topic areas and goals:

- Stormwater Management
- Waste Management
- Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Built Environment and Site Design

Additional focus areas:

- Campus Mobility
- Social Sustainability
- Education, Outreach, and Engagement
- Instruction, Research, and Innovation
- Administrative Support
Texas A&M’s 2017 Campus Master Plan

Key Objectives

- Enhance the Student Experience
- Improve Campus Connectivity
- Integrate the Built Environment

Focus Elements

- Campus Development Plan
- Mobility and Safety
- Sustainability and Wellness
- Campus Guidelines
- Heritage Conservation
- Wayfinding and Signage
We Commit to Making it Better
Texas A&M Master Plans

- sustainability.tamu.edu
- campusplan.tamu.edu
Our Goals

Key Objectives

- Healthy Place To live
- Equitable and Inclusive City
- Transformative Economy
- Leader in Climate Adaption
- City that Grows up, Not Out
Climate Action Plan

Objectives of plan are to:

- Decrease traffic congestion
- Improve air quality
- Provide better access to green space
- Improve quality of life
- Reduce energy costs through energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Increase resilience
Climate Action Plan Strategies

- Increase infrastructure for EV
- Private property followed by public right-of-way
- Convert City fleet to low E/EV/ZEV tech by 2050
- Expand shared/micromobility options
- Reduce parking requirements
- Promote reuse and conversion of parking facilities
- Implement street design to promote pedestrian safety
- Extend transit network, particularly BRT
- Promote shared mobility (e.g. car share)
- Promote and facilitate first mile/last mile solutions
- Expand Transit Corridor and Walkable Places Ordinances
- Reduce parking ratio requirements for infill housing and nonresidential development
- Unbundled parking and housing space
- Implement parking pricing strategies to encourage transit use
- Integrate TDM policies into development code
- Implement preferred parking for ride-sharing, vanpools and EV
Partnership is the Key to Success
Partnerships Help Us with Our Mission

- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Department of Transportation
- Facilities Planning & Construction
- City Planners
- Utilities
- City Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Coordinators
- Texas A&M Transportation Institute
- Campus Architect
- Information Technology
- Landscape Management
- Student Affairs
- Campus Administrators
- Waste Management
- University Police
- City Police
- Facilities
- Office of Sustainability
- Media

- Any department approved to build or renovate
Commitment Gets Results – Pedestrian-Friendly Campus

“limited access road closed to private vehicles during busy class hours, successfully giving priority in this area to pedestrians and cyclists ... to continue the pursuit of a more pedestrian-friendly campus ...”
Commitment Gets Results – Parking Infrastructure

Cain Garage

“...new parking garages will accommodate relocated surface parking spaces...”

Polo Road Garage under construction
Commitment Gets Results – Finding New Options

“...to continue the pursuit of a more pedestrian-friendly campus, various roadways...will become pedestrian malls that will no longer allow vehicular access deep into the campus core...”
Commitment Gets Results – Creating Green Space

“...small interior parking lots will be replaced with new green space...removing the surface lots aids in reducing vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle conflicts by encouraging vehicles to park before entering the dense and heavily populated campus core...”
Commitment Gets Results – Reduce Traffic Conflicts

“...no longer act as a major on-campus roadway...the roadway will be reduced...”

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“...in order to improve the safety and connectivity, the bicycle network will include Buffered Bike Lanes and Multi-use Paths...reduce roadways in order to accommodate separated bicycle lanes.”
Commitment Gets Results – *Reduce Traffic Flow*

“A major driver of the Campus Master Plan is to focus mobility planning on the pedestrian...with the exception of dedicated service spaces, virtually all surface parking is planned to eventually move to periphery structured parking...”
“the immense amount of development in this area will soon increase the number of pedestrians entering campus...to maintain efficient vehicle flow without compromising pedestrian and cyclist safety, the Campus Master Plan proposes a cluster of three closely located grade separations...”
“...separating bicycle paths and routes from roadways is a priority of the proposed bicycle network...bicycle paths and routes are separated by either a marked buffer or a raised vegetated buffer...widen the walkways to a 14’ section supportive of shared pedestrian and cyclist use...”
“...to encourage biking as a last-mile connectivity solution, there need to be bicycle parking facilities adjacent to vehicle parking locations. Cycling can be encouraged by providing end-of-trip facilities, such as showers and locker rooms, in key destination buildings. A bike share program would also support last-mile connectivity...”
Commitment Gets Results – Channeling Pedestrians

“link city and campus bicycle networks. Ongoing cooperation and coordination between the University, City, and state entities is vital...”
“Dismount Zone...high numbers of bicycles, skateboards, and scooters combined with extremely high pedestrian volume creates a commotion that can often lead to collisions...a dismount zone policy would require all riders dismount non-motorized wheeled vehicles such as bicycles, skateboards, and scooters to allow for pedestrian-only movement...bidirectional bicycle routes are planned...”
“...this plan recommends an accompanying program be established to educate cyclists on safe biking practices. This type of program will reinforce the dismount zone policy and help reduce bicycle-pedestrian conflict throughout campus...”
Commitment Gets Results – Bike Education, Services

BIKE SAFETY

SAFETY TIPS
- PREVENTING THEFT
- CONTACT UNIVERSITY POLICE
- PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

SAFETY AND THEFT

BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS
- Keep bike in good repair, checking tires, spokes, brakes, pedals and chain.
- Be sure bell or horn works properly.
- Be sure light is visible for 200m and reflector for 200m when riding at night.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Always give hand signals before turning.
- Yield to pedestrians at crossings or on sidewalks.
- Never ride on play games on public streets.
- Wear a helmet for best protection.

PREVENTING & REPORTING THEFT
- Use a sturdy lock-hardened steel U-lock.
- Secure the bike at least through the frame and rear wheel to a bicycle rack.
- Engrave your driver’s license number on the frame of the bike.
- To contact University Police Department (UPD) call 1-979-845-3344.
- Report theft or suspicious behavior around bike racks to UPD immediately.
- You can also reach UPD by using any of the Blue Police help phone on campus.

More from UPD »
“...build on campus wellness initiatives...minimize transit’s environmental impact ...consider how to best accommodate bicycle parking...higher demand for bicycle storage...designed to meet the duration of need...provide appropriate screening with landscaping or low-walls...”
A campus bikeshare program would reduce crowding at bicycle parking facilities by lessening the need for privately owned bicycles on campus, and would encourage non-riders to reduce dependence on motorized vehicles and adopt a more sustainable and healthy means of transport.
Commitment Gets Results – Supporting Alternative Fuels

Transporting Texas A&M University’s 63,000 students, 5,800 employees, and numerous visitors to and across the institution’s 5,000-acre campus has significant environmental, economic, and social impacts. As more campus users choose alternative forms of transportation, and as the campus fleet transitions to alternatively fueled vehicles, the greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impact of moving people and items around campus will decrease.
Commitment Gets Results – *Walkable City*

- Convert moving traffic lanes to expand sidewalks, install bike lanes and install parking
  - *Goal - share the streets*
Commitment Gets Results – *Walkable City*

- Convert moving traffic lanes to expand sidewalks, install pedestrian plaza, provide connectivity from convention center to park
  
  *Goal - improve attendee experience, attract large conventions*
Commitment Gets Results – Bike Lanes

- Convert parking lane to install bike lane and promote connectivity within bike trail system
  - Goal - *share streets, promote alternative transportation*
Commitment Gets Results – Bike Lanes

- Convert moving traffic lanes to install bike lane to promote connectivity within bike trail system

- Goal - share streets, promote alternative transportation, on-street parking retained
Commitment Gets Results – *Green Space & Connectivity*

- Convert parking lot to green space
  - *Goal - green space, flood mitigation, connectivity to Bayou trails*
Commitment Gets Results – *Green Space*

- Convert public parking to green space
  - *Goal - green space, economic development for Convention District*
Commitment Gets Results – Green Space

- Convert public parking to greenspace
  - Goal - improve walkability
Commitment Gets Results – *Alternative Modes of Transportation*

- Convert public parking for car share
- *Goal - promote alt modes of transportation, reduce SOV*
Commitment Gets Results – *Alternative Modes of Transportation*

- Convert employee parking for EV Fleetshare
- **Goal** - promote alt modes of transportation, reduce SOV, reduce carbon footprint
Commitment Gets Results – *Smart Parking Policies*

- Convert free parking to managed parking
  - *Goal - promote turnover*
Commitment Gets Results – Smart Parking Policies

- Convert public parking for rideshare pick up/drop off
  - Goal - improve pedestrian safety, mitigate congestion caused by rideshare
What’s Next?

“A shift from a vehicle-centric campus to a pedestrian-focused campus requires investment in both transportation systems and the built environment.”

“These investments include increases to on-campus transit capacity, relocation of parking to the perimeter of the campus, and improved connectivity with the surrounding community.”

“Walking and biking support the University’s goals for student, faculty, and staff health and wellness and create a richer social environment with more opportunities for the exchange of ideas and chance meetings to collaborate and socialize.”
What’s Next?

BUILD Grants
Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development
Transportation Discretionary Grants Program

- Increased emphasis on projects located in rural areas
- Nearly $1.5 billion ready for projects with a significant local or regional impact
- Apply by July 19, 2018

40’
What’s Next?

Proterra Battery Powered Bus
What’s Next?

Charging Systems

125 kW PCS
CHARGING DISPENSERS
What’s Next in the Industry?

- Collaboration with cities, TxDOT and MPO for multiuse path
What’s Next?

- Micromobility
- Unbundle Parking
- TDM Programs for large employers
- Expand Market Based Parking
- Autonomous Vehicles
- Improve Transit
  - BRT
  - Routes
PARTNERSHIP

Opportunities increase when you help others win. A little win for a partner is a little win for you.

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