



Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan (CUAP) Year-to-Date

Parks, Trails, Environmental Committee

May 4, 2026

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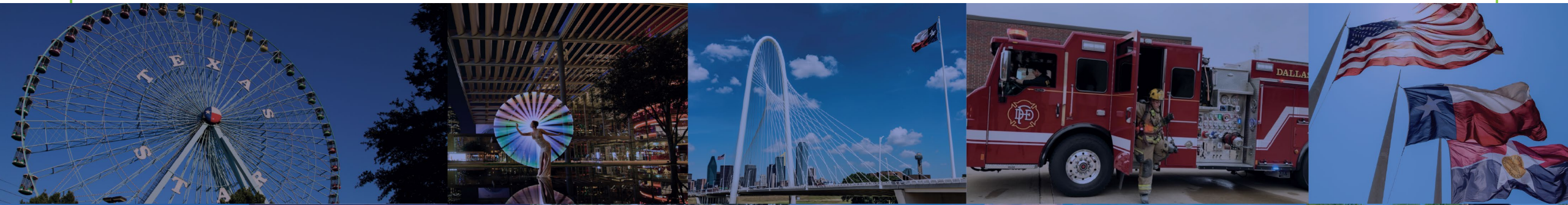
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Overview

BUILD ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY AND PARTNERSHIPS AROUND AN URBAN AGRICULTURE NETWORK



FA3. DEVELOP A DALLAS COMPREHENSIVE FOOD AND URBAN AGRICULTURE PLAN.

PRIMARY BENEFIT



Environmental Quality

CO-BENEFITS



Water Quality



Employment



Education



Public health



Resource consumption

ACTION TYPE
Plan; Assessment

ACTION SOURCE
New Action

The City will comprehensively assess baseline conditions and identify opportunities and strategies to enhance regional food systems. Following the assessment, the City will develop programs and policies to build on the CECAP actions related to food security, food access, and strengthening the local food economy. As part of the plan the City will:

- Perform a comprehensive review of policy and regulatory barriers to growing local food for personal consumption or economic development and plan to remove barriers.

• Evaluate demographic and community specific needs.

• Work with the Food Advisory Council that represents stakeholders from across the food system.

• Identify incentives to support agriculture that provides carbon sequestration benefits.

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

- Policies developed within the plan will focus on improving food access for under-served neighborhoods.

Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) page 160

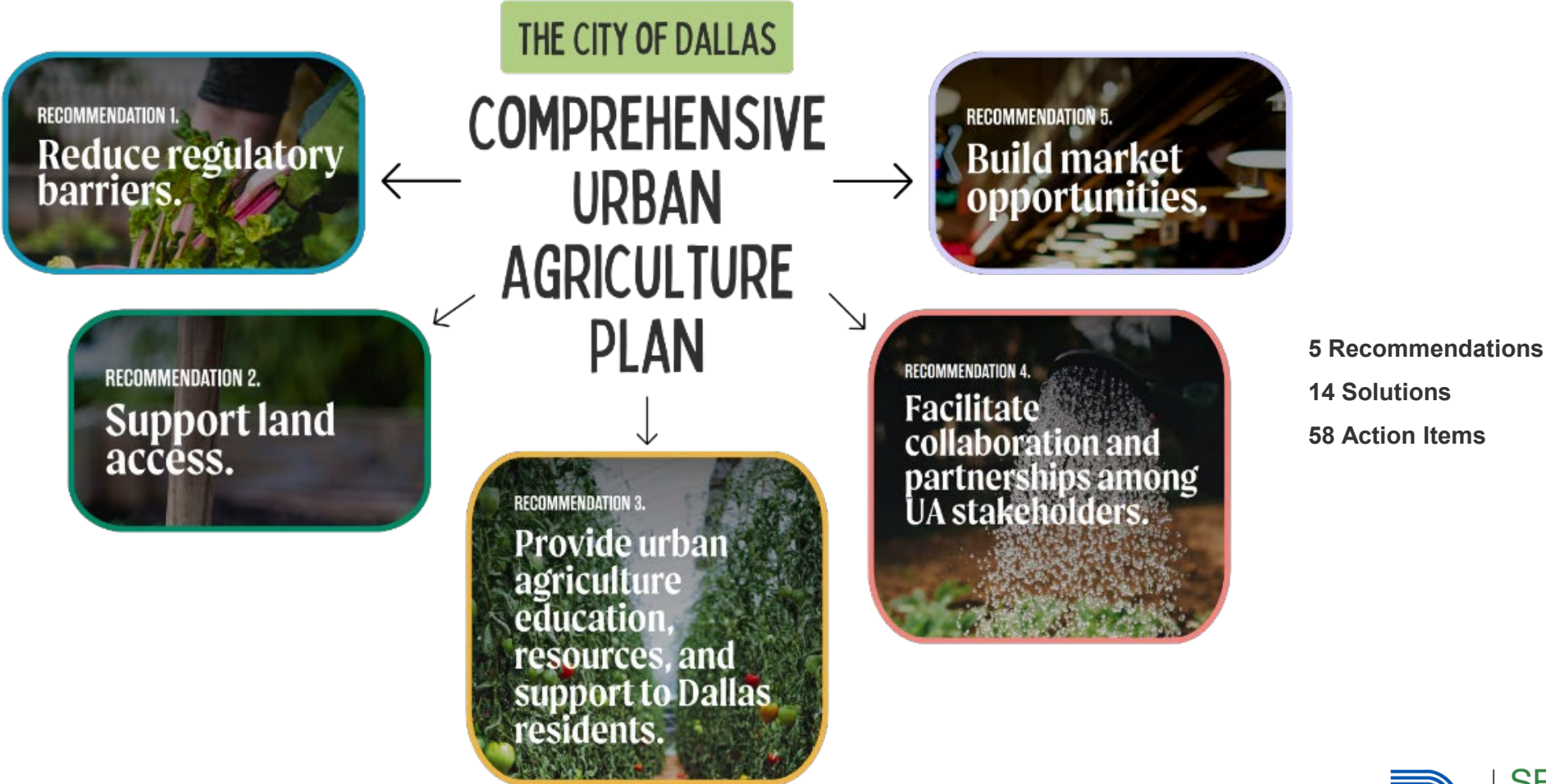
The Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan (CUAP) was unanimously adopted by City Council in March 2023

Focused on the long-term framework to build **organizational capacity and partnerships** around the urban agriculture ecosystem. Looks to support the groundwork for the development of agriculture in the City of Dallas over the next 5-10 years.

Urban Agriculture referring to the cultivation, processing, and distribution of agricultural products in urban and suburban areas, including

- Vertical, Warehouse, and Rooftop Farms
- Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- Hydro, Aero, Aquaponic facilities

Overview





CUAP Year-to-date

Recommendation 1.

Reduce Regulatory Barriers

1. Update Dallas Development Code to Reduce the Regulatory Barriers in the UA Landscape*

* Texas HB 1750

2. Identify and Establish Incentives for Developers to Include UA and Evaluate with other City Initiatives for Green/Permeable Surfaces



The flyer features a background image of a large-scale urban agriculture facility with rows of green plants in a greenhouse. In the foreground, there are two circular inset images: one showing a wooden crate filled with fresh produce like tomatoes, onions, and leafy greens, and another showing a smiling man in a plaid shirt holding a clipboard. The flyer includes logos for the City of Dallas Environmental Quality & Sustainability and DCHHS. A green circular badge with white text says '2026 GRANT CYCLE OPEN!'. The main title is 'URBAN AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PILOT PROGRAM'. A QR code is provided for 'FY26 APPLICATION & PROGRAM GUIDELINES'. The 'GRANT OPPORTUNITY!' section states a maximum reimbursement of \$10,000 per applicant. The 'WHO IS ELIGIBLE?' section lists criteria: individual or establishment who engages in urban agriculture in Dallas, contributes to the local food system, and needs funds to enhance food-related infrastructure. Contact information for questions is provided as CHRONIC.DISEASE@DALLASCOUNTY.ORG (214) 819-5115. A tagline at the bottom reads 'Enhance food security and support healthier, equitable communities in Dallas!'.

2026 GRANT CYCLE OPEN!

URBAN AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PILOT PROGRAM

FY26 APPLICATION & PROGRAM GUIDELINES

GRANT OPPORTUNITY!
Max reimbursement up to **\$10,000** per applicant

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
Individual or Establishment who...
✓ Engages in urban agriculture in Dallas.
✓ Contributes to the local food system.
✓ Needs funds to enhance food-related infrastructure.

QUESTIONS?
CHRONIC.DISEASE@DALLASCOUNTY.ORG
(214) 819-5115

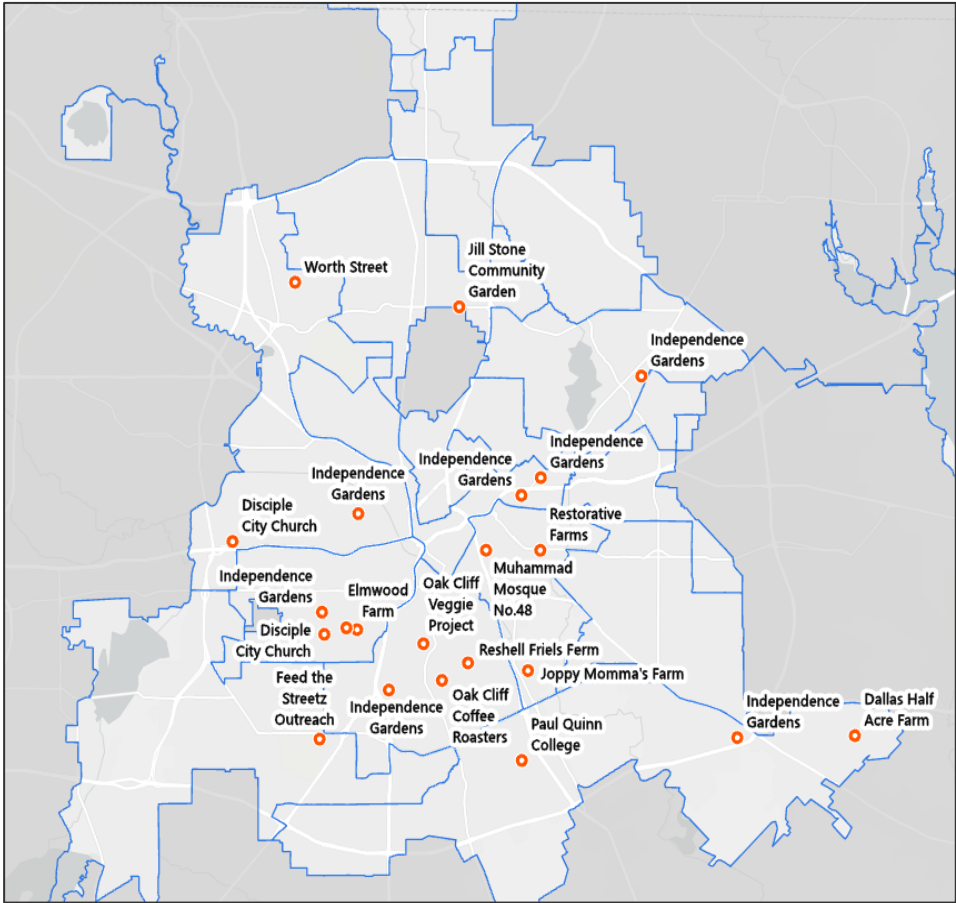
Enhance food security and support healthier, equitable communities in Dallas!

Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Support Program (UAISP) FY25-26

Recommendation 1.

Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Support Program (UAISP)

- Phase 1 FY23/24: Implemented with Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS)
 - 14 awardees, 22 sites
- Phase 2 FY24/25: DCHHS partner
 - Application period: 11/24-12/29
 - 36 applicants, 27 within the city, 7 return applicants.
 - 93% more applicants within city limits year over year.



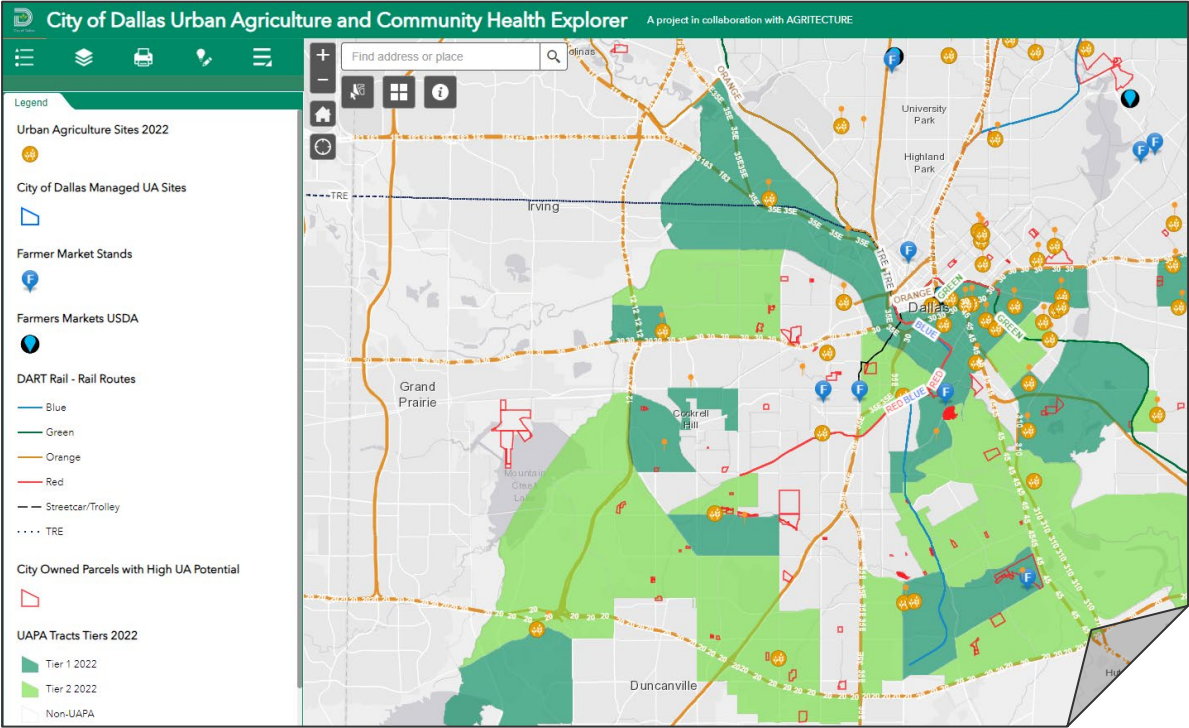
Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Support Program (UAISP) FY23-24 recipient sites [Right]

UAISP FY23-24 Recipient UA Sites

Recommendation 2.

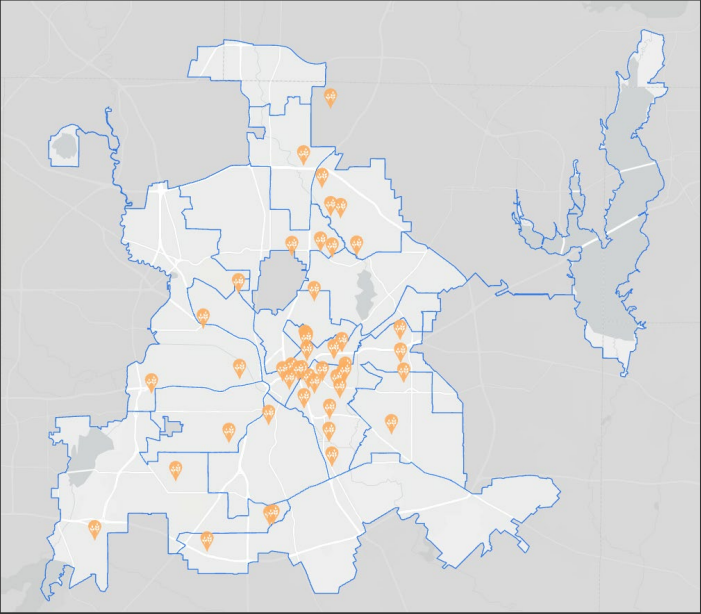
Support Land Access

- 1. Visualize the City of Dallas UA Landscape: Urban Agriculture and Community Health Explorer
- 2. Establish a Process for High-Potential City-Owned Land for Agricultural Use

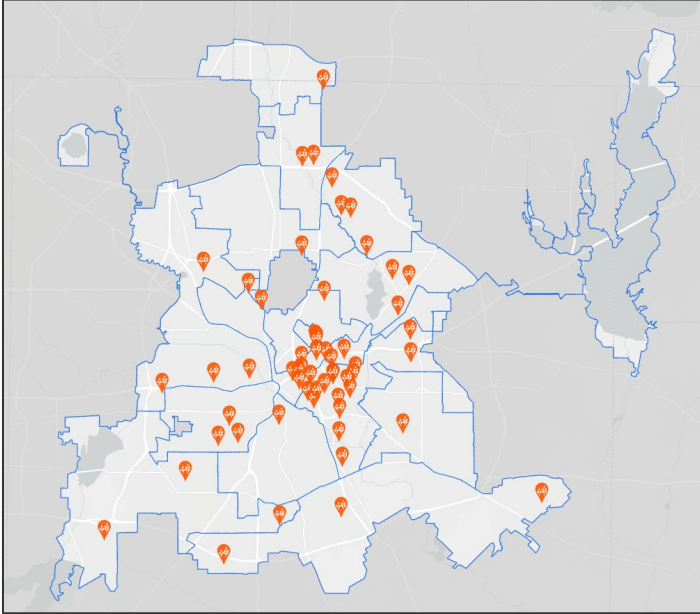


Urban Agriculture and Community Health Explorer, GIS Web App [Above]

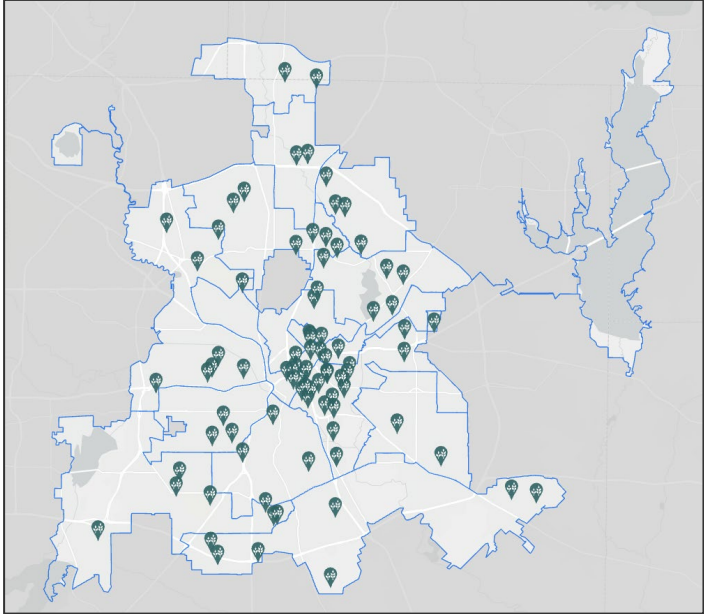
Recommendation 2.



2023 UA Sites
48 sites, 10.4 ac*



2024 UA Sites
62 sites, 15.0 ac



2025 UA Sites
86 sites, 22.3 ac

Urban Agriculture sites from 2023 to 2025.

* 2023 reevaluated from CUAP publishing of initially 52 sites, 15.3 ac

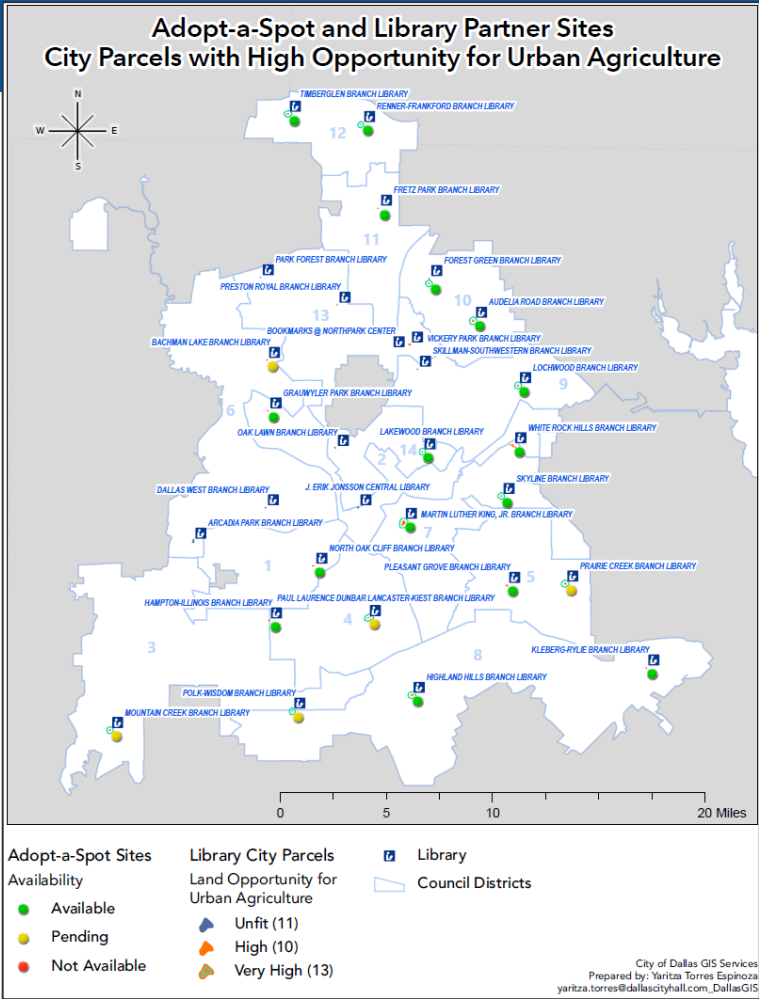
Land Access – City activation

Engaged Departments to date

- Parks and Recreation
Beautification agreements (2023)
- Housing and Community Development (*prior*)
Land Transfer program, DHADC’s Land Bank program (early 2025)
- Code Compliance
Keep Dallas Beautiful: Adopt-a-Spot program (mid 2025)

Pending:

- Associated layers/GIS Explorer to be updated in reflection of the City’s Drivers of Opportunity
- Narrow available land for agriculture and city activation (TPW’s MOWmentum)



Site Analysis, CCS’s Adopt-a-Spot sites associated with DPL, Fall 2025



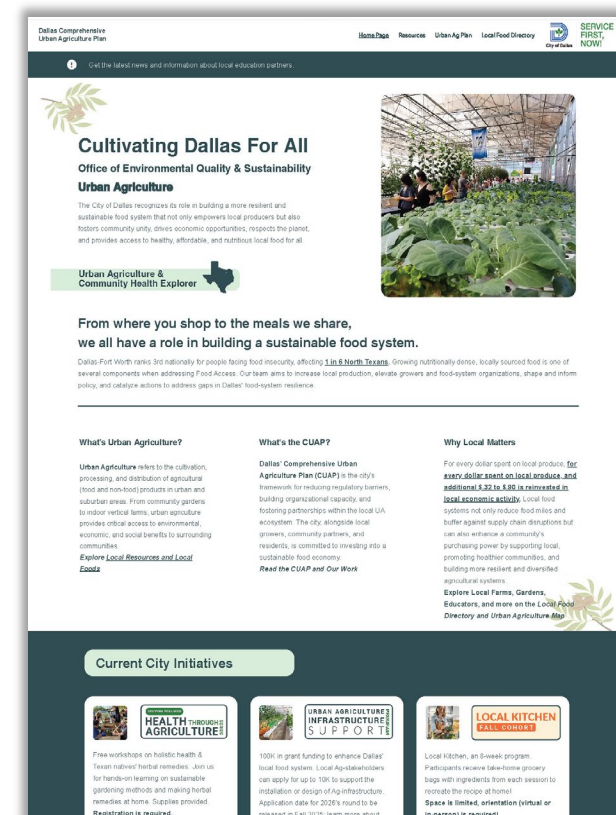
Recommendation 3.

Provide UA Education, Resources, and Support to Dallas Residents

1. Resource Page: Central website for residents and UA stakeholders on zoning, resources, and programs to reduce siloes

2. Education: Develop a UA Education Strategy and partner with relevant UA organizations and partnerships

3. Workforce Development: Increase UA internship and traineeship opportunities in Dallas



Recommendation 3.1 UA Resource Page

Home page

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with links for Home, Resources, Urban Agriculture, and Local Food Directory. The main content area features a large image of a greenhouse and the heading "Cultivating Dallas For All". Below this, there is a section titled "From where you shop to the meals we share, we all have a role in building a sustainable food system." and a "Current City Initiatives" section with icons for Health & Wellness, Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Support, and Local Kitchen Connections.

CUAP Overview

The screenshot displays the "All Dallas Communities Have Access to Healthy, Local Food" section. It includes a "CUAP Progress Dashboard" with four recommendations: Reduce Regulatory Barriers, Support Land Access, Provide Urban Agriculture Education, Resources, and Support to Dallas Residents, and Facilitate Collaboration & Partnerships Among UA Stakeholders. A timeline at the bottom shows the plan's development from 2011 to 2014.

UA Directory

The screenshot shows the "Local Food Directory" section, which connects users with local farmers, food advocates, researchers, workshops, and more. It features a grid of logos for various organizations such as Restorative Farms, North Texas Food Bank, Texas A&M AgriLife, Dallas County Master Gardeners, Grow North Texas, Bonton Farms, Big Tex Urban Farms, USDA's Dallas Service Center, Oak Cliff Veggie Project, and Dallas County Health & Human Services.

Resources

The screenshot displays the "Urban Agriculture Resource Hub" section. It includes a "How to Grow Within Dallas" section with a list of links for various resources like "Growing in Community Spaces", "Growing in North Texas Climate", and "City Planning & Zoning". There is also a "Getting Started" section with a "Current Code & Zoning" dropdown and a "Evaluate Water Access" section.

Recommendation 3.2 UA Education: Develop Educational Programming with UA Organizations and Partnerships

Growing Wellness: Health Through Agriculture Series

- 2024: FY23/24 pilot: 4 modules, 139 engagements
- 2025: FY24/25 10 modules, 510 engagements
- 2026: FY25/26 10 modules scheduled, YTD we've seen a 26% increase in engagement from Jan 2025 vs. Jan 2026

Program Partners: Balcony Box LLC, and Enid B. LLC

GROWING WELLNESS:
HEALTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE SERIES

The Growing Wellness: Health through Agriculture Series is an OEQS education and training series around native Texas herbal remedies to be made and grown in one's own space.

2026 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
APR 30
GARDEN DISTILLATION: HYDOSOLS & NATURAL INSECT REPELLENT

Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Location: West Dallas Multipurpose Center
Teaching Kitchen
2828 Fish Trap Rd.
Dallas, TX 75212
Supplies: All supplies are provided!

REGISTER NOW:
dal.city/GrowingWellness

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability
City of Dallas

GROWING WELLNESS:
HEALTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE SERIES

2026 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
JAN 22 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.
SUPPORT SLEEP WITH CHAMOMILE

REGISTER NOW:
dal.city/GrowingWellness

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability
City of Dallas

GROWING WELLNESS:
HEALTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE SERIES

2025 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
DEC 9
IMMUNE SUPPORT WITH ELDERBERRY

REGISTER NOW:
dal.city/GrowingWellness

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability
City of Dallas

GROWING WELLNESS:
HEALTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE SERIES

2025 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
NOV 18
WHOLE BODY SUPPORT WITH GARLIC & HORSERADISH

Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Location: West Dallas Multipurpose Center
Teaching Kitchen
2828 Fish Trap Rd.
Dallas, TX 75212
Supplies: All supplies are provided!

REGISTER NOW:
dal.city/GrowingWellness

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability
City of Dallas

Recommendation 3.3 UA Workforce Development: Increase Internships and Traineeship Opportunities

Growers' Education and Workforce Development (GEWD) Pilot Program

- 2024: FY23/24
DCHHS as pilot partner
8 interns across 4 Agriculture site
facilitators
- 2026: FY25/26 projected to launch
2nd Cycle Spring 2027



GROWERS EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability's (OEQS) Urban Agriculture Division, in partnership with Dallas County Health and Human Services, has launched the Growers Education and Workforce Development Program to fund agricultural education and workforce development.

THE APPLICATION PERIOD WILL OPEN **FRIDAY, NOV. 1, 2024** AND CLOSING ON **MONDAY, DEC. 2, 2024, AT MIDNIGHT.**

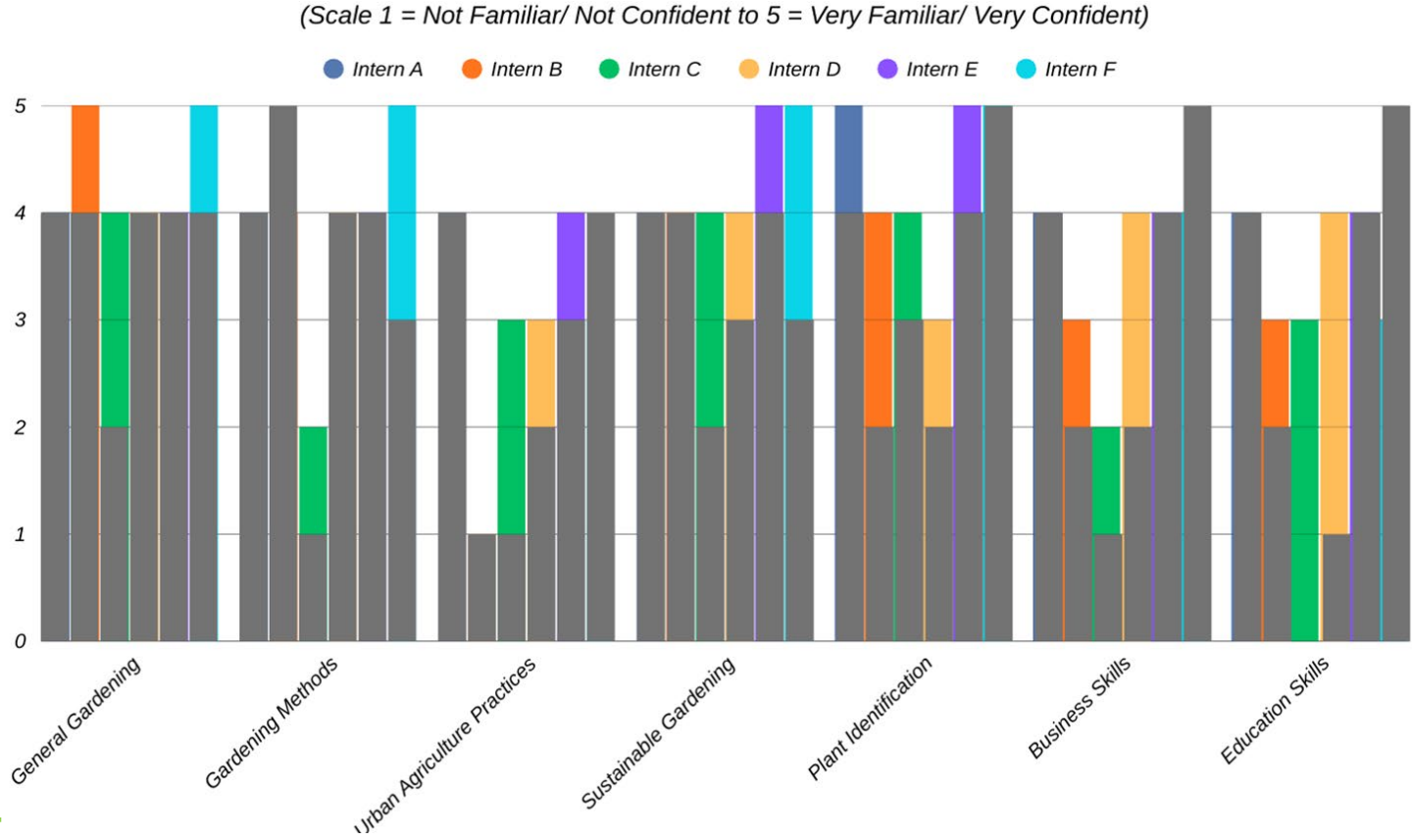


Grant summary and application can be found here: bit.ly/GEWD2024
Questions can be sent to Rabekha.siebert@dallas.gov

City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability

GEWD Midpoint Competency Growth Evaluation

*Grayscale represents pre-evaluation (baseline) data
 *Colored bars indicate improvement in knowledge.



Midpoint Key Observations

Meaningful growth across all seven skill areas, was demonstrated with an overall average **22.2% increase** in knowledge from pre- to mid-assessment.

Apprentices had varying rates of improvement, Intern B, C, and D showed increases over **100%** on multiple core competencies, whereas Intern E showed an average improvement rate of **28%** across all core competencies.

This is due to several factors, but namely the baseline knowledge participants entered the program with.

Recommendation 4. Facilitate Partnerships and Collaboration

1. Urban Agriculture Advisory Council

2. UA Events: Knowledge sharing, resource support, and partnerships for UA stakeholders



Recommendation 5. Build Market Opportunities

1. Reduce barriers to operating farmers markets
2. Seek funding for nutrition assistance programs to increase purchasing power of low-income consumers
3. Initiate or Partner with a “Buy Local” campaign with consumer-facing, business-facing, and internal COD Agency-facing elements
4. Facilitate connections between Dallas area producers and interested wholesale buyers such as restaurants, retailers, and institutions

Why Local?

People • Planet • Profitable Livelihoods

Dallas, pop. 1.2 million

Shifted 10% of its spending from **NON-LOCAL** (big box stores i.e., Coles, international retailers) to **LOCAL** businesses, the shift would create:

- 3,200 new jobs
- \$108 million in new wages
- \$260 million in total economic impact

The impact of simply sourcing 1 out of 10 purchases locally.
Population & dollar value based on 2021*(pre pandemic)

Extrapolated from Civic Economic
American Booksellers Association: Indie City Index
American Booksellers Association: Indie Impact Survey Series

Recommendation 5. Education Driving Demand

Local Kitchen

Program includes:

- **Garden Education:** Hands-on learning and sustainable growing practices.
- **Cooking and nutrition:** Prepare weekly seasonal featured vegetables together. Discuss nutrition while tasting the sample dish cooked in class.
- **Take-Home Bag:** Receive groceries to recreate the recipe at home. Discuss tips for cooking at home.

Program outcomes:

95% of participants biometric data showed an increase in vegetable consumption from pre to post evaluation.
90% of participants indicated adoption of sustainable land management practices and positive behaviors towards eating and purchasing local seasonal foods.



Local Kitchen

GROW, COOK, AND EAT SEASONAL, LOCAL PRODUCE!

The 8-week program sessions will include preparing a recipe together discussing the nutritional value of the foods. Participants will learn to grow and prepare seasonal produce. At the end of each session, participants will take home a grocery bag with the items to prepare the recipe for their family.

8 SESSIONS BEGIN ON
MONDAY MAR 2 and conclude on **MONDAY APR 20**

SESSIONS ARE FROM 6:30 TO 8 P.M.
WEST DALLAS MULTIPURPOSE CENTER
2828 Fish Trap Rd. Dallas, TX 75212
Required virtual orientation:
February 11 or 12 | 6 to 6:30 p.m.

Register for orientation here
dal.city/LocalKitchen
For more information or to sign up, call 214.670.6341

Today Looking at Tomorrow



Short-Mid Term Implementation

- R3.S1 Website
 - **Feedback on site content**
- R5.S2 Build Market Opportunities
 - Good Local Markets x City of Dallas
 - Public nutrition-cooking sessions with farmers and DCHHC

Long-Term Implementation

- R2.S2 Land Access
 - Expanding TPW's MOWmentum program
- R4.S1 Urban Agriculture Advisory Council
 - **Formalize and maintain**



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