

# SUSTAIN *Louisville*

2016 PROGRESS REPORT | PUBLISHED 2017

ENERGY

ENVIRONMENT

TRANSPORTATION

ECONOMY

COMMUNITY

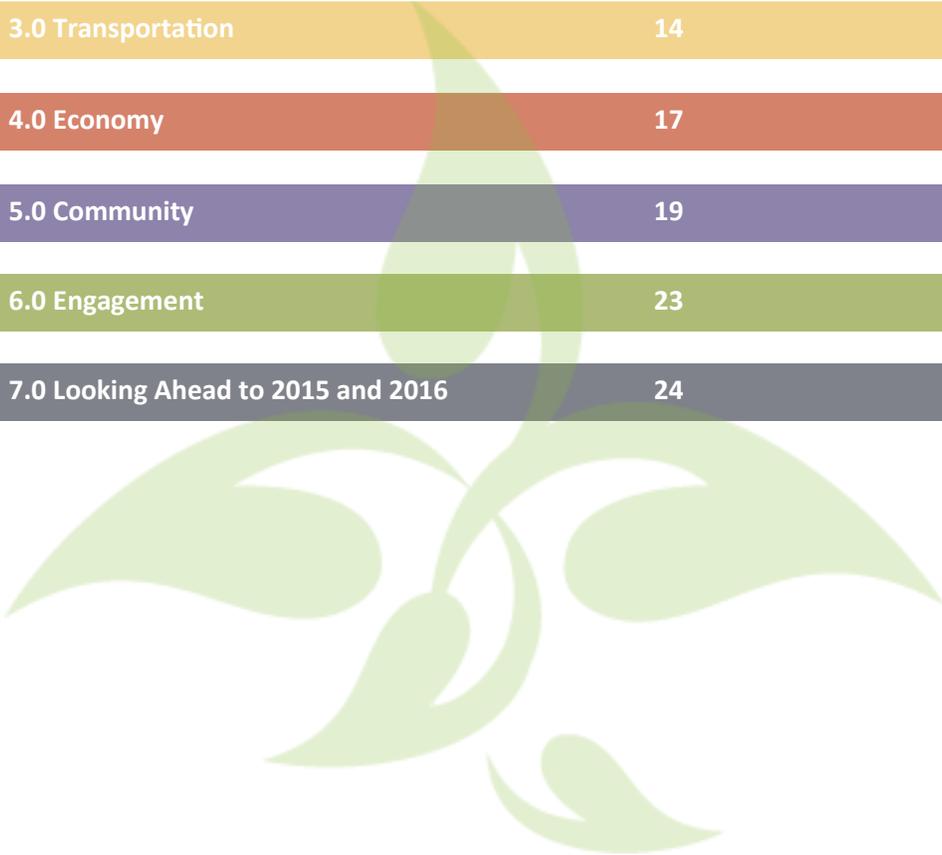
ENGAGEMENT



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GREG FISCHER, MAYOR

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## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Friends,

2016 marks three years since we released Sustain Louisville, our city's sustainability plan, and every year we are making progress on our goals. The 2016 Sustain Louisville Progress Report reflects our commitment to providing all Louisville residents with direct, measurable ways that we are striving to achieve our sustainability goals. These goals emphasize a desire and need for a healthier, greener and more livable community.

In 2016, Louisville was selected to participate in the global 100 Resilient Cities program, which provides funding, resources and technical expertise to build and improve community capacity to respond to shocks, such as weather events, and ongoing stresses, such as poverty and inequities. One stress that Louisville has already begun addressing is urban heat. The Urban Heat Management Study, released in 2016, provides recommendations and strategies to manage Louisville's urban warming. An urban heat management strategy will be released later this year. Louisville joined the Global Covenant of Mayors in April 2016 and formally committed to reducing our contributions to climate change. Metro Council approved an ordinance establishing Louisville as an Energy Project Assessment District, which allows for innovative mechanisms to facilitate renewable energy, energy efficiency and water conservation projects. Furthermore, our community partners helped plant trees, install green infrastructure, host environmental education events, manage and protect existing greenspace and promote healthy forms of transportation – actions that continue to shape Louisville's reputation as a great place to live.

These accomplishments are just a few examples of the diverse areas that sustainability touches. Whether you are a business owner, neighborhood association member, student, faith leader or resident in our community, you can make an impact on the health of your neighborhood and your neighbors by making sustainable decisions every day.

We are making progress citywide and I look forward to working with the community on goals that we have yet to achieve. My administration, led by the Office of Sustainability, continues to tackle these challenges with the cooperation of many government agencies and partners throughout the community. From planting a tree to using reusable bags when grocery shopping and choosing a bicycle or public transportation instead of your car, we can all play a role in making Louisville more sustainable.

Sincerely,



Greg Fischer

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Louisville Metro Government is pleased to release the Sustain Louisville 2016 Progress Report, which summarizes goal and initiative accomplishments achieved within the framework of the city's sustainability plan. Published in 2013, Sustain Louisville charts a path toward making Louisville a more sustainable city. The plan's 17 goals are categorized under six focus areas of Energy, Environment, Transportation, Economy, Community and Engagement. The goals and initiatives outlined in Sustain Louisville promote and prioritize social, economic and environmental sustainability objectives – all through the lens of human health.

### SUSTAIN LOUISVILLE OBJECTIVES

- 1. Protect the environment and reduce Louisville's carbon footprint**
- 2. Ensure the health, wellness and prosperity of all citizens**
- 3. Create a culture of sustainability**

The success of Sustain Louisville is recounted in annual progress reports that document achievements within each year. Since Sustain Louisville was published in 2013, a framework of programs and projects has been developed to help improve air and water quality, increase landfill diversion rates and increase access to local food and nature. The Division of Community Forestry was established to increase and protect the current tree canopy, plant trees on public property and work with partners to plant new trees in areas of need based on data in the urban tree canopy assessment. Louisville Metro Government and its partners have planted over 31,000 trees since 2011.

Bike infrastructure is a visible improvement that helps improve air quality. Louisville's urban bike network has increased by nearly 100 miles of bike lanes and shared lane miles since 2013. The Central Business District boasts a ground-breaking waste reduction program, known as "Wet-Dry." This strategy improved landfill diversion rates from 11% to nearly 80% within the first nine months of the program, and has maintained an 80% diversion rate. The Metropolitan Sewer District is making progress on their

goal to improve water quality and has reduced the combined sewer overflow volume by 50% since 2008. The purchase of local food by institutions has increased from \$150,000 in 2011 to \$1.1M in 2016. Metro Parks has increased access to nature for low-income youth and students of color through its Engaging Children Outdoors (Louisville ECHO) program by 30% since 2014. Metro Parks has also nearly doubled the acreage of land being actively managed for invasive species since 2014.

In 2016, Louisville Metro Government and its partners laid the groundwork for addressing climate change impacts, and the effects of rising heat and pollution on human health. Mayor Greg Fischer signed a global agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, track emission reduction progress and prepare for the impacts of a changing climate. Louisville joined the 100 Resilient Cities network, which will help prepare the city to minimize impacts from shocks, such as severe weather and infrastructure failure, and stresses, such as poverty and health equity issues. An Urban Heat Management study was released that identified the prevalence of heat across council districts and neighborhoods and provided heat management recommendations. Meteorological stations were installed at 28 locations across the city to continue heat data collection. A unique study was conducted to assess whether planting a densely vegetated buffer would filter roadway pollutants and have a positive impact on the health of the citizens behind the buffer. These programs and initiatives are helping to make Louisville a healthier and more sustainable city.



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## 2016 KEY SUCCESSES

- Louisville Metro Government was selected to participate in the global [100 Resilient Cities](#) (100RC) program. As a member of 100RC, Louisville will gain access to tools, funding, technical expertise and other resources to build and improve the city's capacity to respond to shocks, such as weather events, and ongoing stresses, such as poverty and [inequities](#).
- Mayor Fischer signed the [Global Covenant of Mayors](#), committing Louisville to join cities around the world in an effort to reduce contributions to climate change and plan for its impacts.
- The city released [a long-range multi-modal transportation plan](#).
- [Louisville's Urban Heat Management Study](#) was released and is the country's most comprehensive urban heat study to-date and provides a framework for developing urban heat management strategies.
- TreesLouisville, a non-profit organization, launched a [One Million Dollar Challenge Grant](#), with the goal of planting more trees on private property.
- Louisville Metro Council passed an ordinance that enabled the Office of Sustainability to establish an Energy Project Assessment District (EPAD) program. The [EPAD program](#) is a unique financing vehicle for renewable energy, energy efficiency and water conservation projects.

## DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY

**Sustainability is traditionally defined as “meeting today’s needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland Commission, 1987). Sustain Louisville is formed around this definition and uses a “triple bottom line approach,” which recognizes the interconnectivity of people, prosperity and the planet. The objectives of Sustain Louisville incorporate the triple bottom line approach through its commitment to promoting and prioritizing the social, economic and environmental facets in the Louisville community.**

## INTRODUCTION

The 2016 Progress Report highlights the sustainability achievements of Louisville Metro Government agencies and their community partners within the framework of Sustain Louisville, the city's sustainability plan. Sustain Louisville is a living document that evolves over time as goals are achieved and new targets are identified. Goals and initiatives prioritize social, economic and environmental improvements through a commitment to citizen health and wellbeing. Sustain Louisville embraces the city's “health in all policies” approach while encompassing the preservation and enhancement of our natural environment.

Sustain Louisville outlines 17 goals within six focus areas. Initiatives listed under each goal are identified as complete, underway, planned or proposed. Initiatives identified as underway were being worked on in 2016; initiatives identified as planned will be launched or completed within three years; and initiatives identified

as proposed will be launched or completed in four years or longer. Initiatives that have been completed as listed as such, and initiatives removed from the plan are identified as no longer pursuing. A total of 84 initiatives are listed in the plan, 38 of which are underway. In 2016, two new initiatives were added, two initiatives changed from planned or proposed to underway and six initiatives were completed. A total of 26 initiatives have been completed since Sustain Louisville was published.

Within each focus area, key successes are highlighted and related goals and initiatives are displayed. Metrics, where established, are reported in “by the numbers” boxes. Completed initiatives are described and details are provided for initiatives with significant progress. No major changes were made to goal language in 2016.

# GOALS

## Sustain Louisville—Goals Summary

FOCUS AREA	GOAL	TARGET DATE	HEALTH
1.0 Energy	1. Decrease per capita energy use citywide 25%	2025	●
	2. Decrease energy use in city-owned buildings 30%	2018	●
2.0 Environment	3. Mitigate the risk of climate change impacts	2018	●
	4. Achieve and maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards	Ongoing	●
	5. Improve waterway quality	2024	●
	6. Divert 90% of solid waste from the landfill	2042	●
3.0 Transportation	7. Decrease transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions 20%	2020	●
	8. Reduce vehicle miles traveled 500,000 miles daily by 2040	2040	●
4.0 Economy	9. Provide business opportunities for clean economy organizations and innovators	2020	●
	10. Promote a comprehensive local food system	2018	●
5.0 Community	11. Support an equitable distribution of local and healthy foods	2018	●
	12. Increase access to green space and recreation resources	Ongoing	●
	13. Incorporate sustainability into the Land Development Code and the Comprehensive Plan	2018	●
	14. Maintain and expand a robust parks system	Ongoing	●
	15. Expand green infrastructure incentives citywide	2018	●
	16. Achieve and maintain a 45% tree canopy	Ongoing	●
6.0 Engagement	17. Engage the community in sustainability practices and principles	Ongoing	●

### HEALTH KEY

● On Track      ● Slightly Off Track      ● Not on Track





## 2016 Key Successes

- An [Energy Project Assessment District \(EPAD\)](#) program, known as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) in other states, was established in Louisville.
- Louisville maintained its inclusion on the Environmental Protection Agency’s list of Top Cities with the most ENERGY STAR Certified buildings.
- The Louisville Sustainability Council launched [Solar Over Louisville](#) to increase the adoption of residential and commercial solar power.

## Goals and Initiatives

### ENERGY

#### GOAL 1. Decrease per capita energy use citywide 25% by 2025

Launch an ENERGY STAR Building Certification Program	Completed 2014
Assess renewable energy incentive programs and legislative options	Underway
Launch a cool and green roof program	Underway
Install a “living laboratory” solar demonstration project	Planned
Establish citywide renewable energy goals and strategies	Planned
Launch a green building incentive program	Planned
Launch an education program to promote energy efficiency and energy conservation	Planned
Require an Energy Star building benchmark disclosure for commercial buildings	Planned
Increase the use of renewable energy technologies in city-owned buildings 50% by 2025	Proposed

#### GOAL 2. Decrease energy use in city-owned buildings 30% by 2018

Launch the second energy savings performance contract for city-owned buildings	Completed 2013
Implement an Energy Management Policy for city-owned buildings	Underway
Identify sustainability goals for city government capital projects	Planned

## PROGRESS ON GOALS AND INITIATIVES

### Goal 1: Decrease per capita energy use citywide 25% by 2025

Citywide per capita energy use was 1% above baseline projections at 97 million British thermal units (MMBtu). Louisville’s 2016 per capita electricity use was 3% below baseline projections, and per capita natural gas use was 9% above baseline projections. Reported energy data were weather normalized.

#### GOAL METRIC—BY THE NUMBERS

**Per Capita Energy Consumption**  
 Baseline— 96 MMBtu per capita  
 Actual— 97 MMBtu per capita  
 Target— 72 MMBtu per capita

### 2016 PER CAPITA ENERGY USE LOUISVILLE, KY



## 1.0 ENERGY

### Goal 1: Decrease per capita energy use citywide 25% by 2025 (continued)

- The Office of Sustainability launched Louisville's [Energy Project Assessment District \(EPAD\)](#) program in November, following Metro Council ordinance adoption in April. The program allows property owners to affix a loan for energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation measures to the property title. The payments are assessed annually and administered by the Jefferson County Sheriff in the same manner as a property tax bill. This financing mechanism is known as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) in other states.
- The [Louisville Energy Alliance](#) and the Kentucky Chapter of the International Facility Management Association partnered with the Office of Sustainability to host the [2016 Energy Conservation Conversation](#). The event featured a trade show with over 25 vendors and educational sessions on how to save energy to drive profits.
- The [Federal Weatherization Assistance Program](#), administered by the Office of Housing and Community Development, completed energy upgrades in eight homes and started several more. The program is designed to renovate existing affordable housing to be more energy efficient for families under 200% of the poverty income level. Funding is provided by the Department of Energy and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

### Goal 2: Decrease energy use in city-owned buildings 30% by 2018

In an effort to track progress toward achieving this goal, Louisville Metro Government identified a vendor to implement software that will allow the city to actively track and analyze electric and natural gas use in all city-owned buildings. The metric will be updated in 2017 to reflect the improvement in data collection.





## 2.0 ENVIRONMENT

### 2016 Key Successes

- Louisville Metro Government was selected to participate in the global [100 Resilient Cities \(100RC\)](#) program to build urban, environmental and economic resilience.
- Mayor Fischer [signed the Compact of Mayors](#), now known as the Global Covenant of Mayors. The signature re-affirmed Louisville’s commitment to reducing citywide contributions to climate change while preparing for the impacts of rising global temperatures and changing weather patterns.
- Louisville’s [Urban Heat Management Study](#), the most comprehensive community-wide study of its kind, was released in April 2016.
- The [Green Fork Awards](#) were distributed to 18 restaurants for successfully participating in the city’s [Wet-Dry](#) recycling and food compost program. Seven restaurants received honorable mention.
- The Solid Waste Division of Public Works, in partnership with the Habitat ReStore, started a latex paint recycling program. Residents can drop off partial containers of latex paint at the staffed recycling centers. Habitat ReStore re-purposes the paint and sells it at local retail stores.



### Goals and Initiatives

## ENVIRONMENT

#### GOAL 3. Mitigate the risk of climate change impacts by 2018

Identify and implement climate change adaptation and resilience goals and best practices	Underway
Implement strategies to mitigate the urban heat island effect	Underway
Perform a community-wide greenhouse gas inventory	Planned

#### GOAL 4. Achieve and maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards – Ongoing

Expand and enhance the city’s Advanced Traffic Management System	Completed 2016
Increase city fleet vehicle biodiesel fuel blend to B10 or greater	Completed 2016
Convert 300 acres of mowed turf to naturalization areas in Metro Parks – <b>NEW!</b>	Underway
Explore opportunities to fund conversion of fuel used by city heavy-duty fleet vehicles to compressed natural gas	Underway
Form a partnership to implement an alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicle strategy	Underway
Implement an alternative fuel vehicle replacement strategy for the city fleet	Planned

#### GOAL 5. Improve waterway quality by 2024

Develop a pilot project to restore 10 miles of riparian vegetation	Underway
Reduce the annual number of combined sewer overflows into Louisville’s waterways	Underway
Reduce the annual number of sanitary sewer overflows into Louisville’s waterways	Underway
Launch a program to decrease the amount of impervious surfaces that impact watershed systems	Planned

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## 2.0 ENVIRONMENT

### Goals and Initiatives (continued)

#### ENVIRONMENT

##### GOAL 6. Divert 90% of solid waste from the landfill by 2042

Increase recycling citywide 25% by 2015	Completed 2015
Launch a food waste compost pilot project in school cafeterias	Completed 2014
Launch a plastic bag ban for residential yard waste	Completed 2014
Promote recycling and food waste composting at all city-sponsored events	Completed 2014
Achieve 90% residential recycling participation by 2025	Underway
Champion education and awareness campaigns on waste reduction practices	Underway
Expand recycling for commercial buildings, restaurants, retail stores and multi-tenant apartments	Underway
Offer composting, yard waste reduction and recycling workshops	Underway
Launch a residential food waste compost pilot program	Planned
Expand participation in food waste composting to institutional cafeterias citywide	Proposed
Investigate alternatives to landfill waste disposal practices	Proposed

#### PROGRESS ON GOALS AND INITIATIVES

##### Goal 3: Mitigate the risk of climate change impacts by 2018

For the second year in a row, 2016 global temperatures significantly exceeded prior records. Louisville Metro Government and its many partners are working hard to reduce Louisville's contributions to climate change and increasing temperatures.

- In addition to the announcements that Louisville will participate in the final cohort of the [100 Resilient Cities](#) program and will address local contributions to climate change through the [Global Covenant of Mayors](#) methodologies, the Emergency Management Agency released a five-year update to Louisville's [Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan](#). This document lists projects to address risks from flooding, extreme heat, droughts and other large storms or hazards.
- The [Urban Heat Management Study](#) (2016) revealed that temperatures in certain areas of Louisville may be 10 degrees higher than in other parts of the city. The Study recommends management efforts be achieved through increased greenery and cool materials in our urban fabric, as well as improvements in energy efficiency in vehicles and buildings. [The Study also identifies heat management strategies by neighborhood.](#)
- Funds were secured in the FY2017 budget to conduct a greenhouse gas inventory in 2017.
- Metro Parks installed cool roofs on eight buildings in 2016. The agency has installed nearly 145,000 square feet of cool roofs since 2009.
- The Parking Authority of River City (PARC) installed cool coatings on the top of three parking garages – Glassworks, Jefferson Center and First and Main.



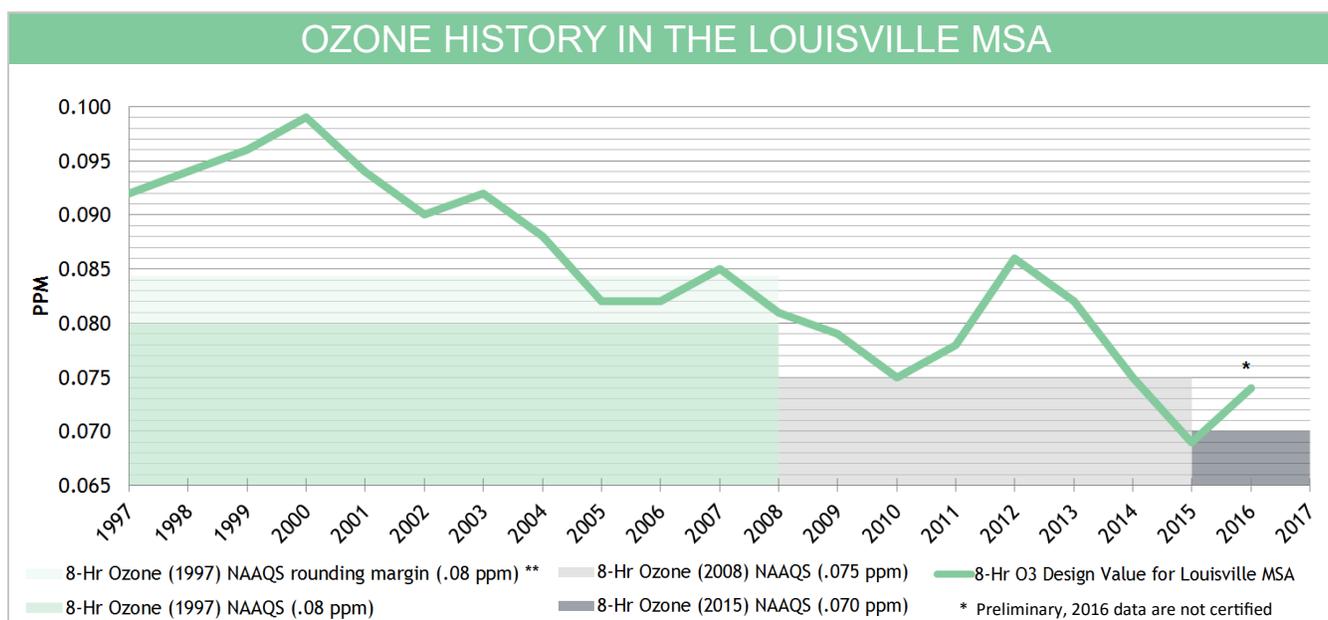
**"Climate change is the transcendent issue of our time. None of us alone can change the climate change trajectory, but we can all be a partner in [the effort]."**  
– Councilman Bill Hollander, D-9th District, during the launch of *Solar Over Louisville*

## 2.0 ENVIRONMENT

### Goal 4: Achieve and maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards – Ongoing

Air monitoring data showed that the Louisville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) made strides toward meeting the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). However, two pollutants - fine particulates (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) – had “nonattainment” designations from the EPA in 2016. “Nonattainment” is a designation for an area with pollutant measurements that do not meet the NAAQS. A proposed rule to re-designate the area to attainment of the fine particulate standard has already been published in the Federal Register ([82 FR 3234](#)) and the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) expects the submittal of an additional year of SO<sub>2</sub> data to allow it to likewise request the US Environmental Protection Agency to re-designate the area for SO<sub>2</sub>.

While ozone formation has trended downward since the 1990s, weather patterns in the summer of 2016 contributed to ideal ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) formation conditions, leading to an uptick in the area’s 2014-2016 8-hour O<sub>3</sub> design value (DV).



- The Louisville MSA 2014-2016 DV for the annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard was 10.6 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, which is an improvement from the previous 2013-2015 DV of 11.7 ug/m<sup>3</sup> and shows a positive trend of staying well below the national standard of 12 ug/m<sup>3</sup>.
- The 2014-2016 DV for the portion of Jefferson County that is designated nonattainment for the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> standard is 76 parts per billion (ppb). That is down from 99 ppb for 2013-2015. Notably, the trend is strongly downward due to pollution control measures put in place at LG&E’s Mill Creek plant, with annual values of 149 ppb in 2014, 54 ppb in 2015 and 26 ppb in 2016.
- The Office of Sustainability partnered with the University of Louisville and the Institute for Healthy Air, Water and Soil to study whether planting a densely vegetated buffer along a busy street would have an impact on the health of citizens behind the buffer. A wall of greenery was planted along Shelbyville Road at St. Margaret Mary, and air monitoring and health data was collected from participants as part of the study.

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## 2.0 ENVIRONMENT

### Goal 4: Achieve and maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards

#### – Ongoing (continued)

- Louisville Metro Government implemented new policies that pause most mowing by city crews on Air Quality Alert days in order to avoid the contribution to ozone made by power mowers.
- Metro Parks established a new initiative to convert 300 acres of mowed turf to more sustainable management practices by 2025. The new initiative will establish fields of native grasses and other vegetation that will not be mowed on a regular basis. In 2016, a 3.5 acre pollinator meadow was installed in Cherokee Park in partnership with the Olmsted Parks Conservancy, and a 6.6 acre fescue meadow was installed in Joe Creason Park.
- Fleet and Facilities Management replaced two diesel-powered waste collection trucks with compressed natural gas (CNG) trucks. The agency plans to replace 10 riding lawn mowers with propane-powered equipment.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**Convert 300 acres of mowed turf to naturalization areas in Metro Parks**

#### Number of Acres

Current: 2016—10.1 acres

Target: 2042 — 300 acres

#### Initiative Completed—Expand the Advanced Traffic Management System

An effort was completed to retime and coordinate traffic signals on six routes to reduce delays, fuel consumption and vehicle emissions. The project optimized and coordinated progression of traffic for multiple arterial roads and networks on a county-wide basis. Project corridors included the Central Business District, Cane Run Road, Newburg Road, Shelbyville Road, Taylor-New Cut Road and Westport Road.



#### BY THE NUMBERS

**Time Saved Annually — 830,198 hours**

#### Annual Fuel Savings

658,206 gallons / \$1,480,963

Another project was completed in partnership with Verizon to introduce a wireless traffic signal communications network along Shelbyville Road in the Middletown area. The system is monitored for communication speeds and reliability, as well as maintenance needs. This project also reduced overall vehicle delays, travel times, fuel consumption and vehicle operating costs.

Public Works plans to introduce new or upgraded traffic signal controller units throughout Jefferson County in the coming years.

#### Initiative Completed—Increase city fleet vehicle biodiesel fuel blend to B10 or greater

B10, a fuel that emits fewer pollutants than regular diesel fuel, is now widely used in the city's fleet. The city's fuel supplier, Thornton's, has expanded the number of sites that offer a B10 blend, so it is now available for use in all city diesel vehicles.

## 2.0 ENVIRONMENT

### Goal 5: Improve waterway quality by 2024

In 2016, two of Louisville’s stream segments were removed from the US Environmental Protection Agency’s 303(d) list, a catalog of stream segments that do not meet the Clean Water Act standards.

- MSD modified the sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) and combined sewer overflow (CSO) metrics to more accurately reflect tracking and progress. SSOs are located outside of the Urban Services District and CSOs primarily occur within the Urban Services District. MSD is making progress on both objectives.
- Metro Parks hired a contractor to create a conceptual plan for a 1.6-mile ecological restoration and hike/bike trail along the banks of the Beargrass Creek. The project was funded through a 2015 grant from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) matched by local donors. [The Beargrass Creek Trail Conceptual Shared Use Path & Ecological Restoration Plan](#), which was released in early 2017, aims to connect the missing link of the Beargrass Creek Greenway between Cherokee Park and Waterfront Park.
- Metro Parks began a partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to stabilize eroding riverbank in Portland Wharf Park and along the Louisville Loop in Shawnee Park. USACE completed the design phase in 2016 and will begin construction on the Portland section in 2017. If local match funding is secured, work will begin on the Shawnee Park section in late 2017 or early 2018.

#### GOAL METRIC—BY THE NUMBERS

##### Number of Stream Segments on the 303(d) List

Baseline: 2010 — 86

Most Recent Data: 2016\* — 82

Target: 2024 — 78

\*The 303(d) list is published every two years.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Reduce the annual number of combined sewer overflows into Louisville’s waterways

###### Average Annual Overflow Volume\*

Baseline: 2008— 6448 Million Gallons

Current: 2016 — 3658 Million Gallons\*\*

Target: 2020 — 340 Million Gallons\*\*

\*These numbers are modeled based on data from a typical year design storm and the Consent Decree program implementation schedule.

\*\*Note that current and target conditions average annual overflow volumes for the combined system are influenced by the completion of upstream sanitary sewer projects, with full implementation scheduled for completion in 2024.

##### Reduce the annual number of sanitary sewer overflows into Louisville’s waterways \*

###### Number of SSO locations\*\*

Baseline: 2008— 173

Current: 2016 — 151

Target: 2024 — 0

\*Overflows are highly influenced by rainfall, and locations may vary despite project progress.

\*\*The count of these locations excludes those that overflow during rainfall events which are beyond the designed level of control.



## 2.0 ENVIRONMENT

### Goal 6: Divert 90% of solid waste from the landfill by 2042

The amount of waste materials diverted from the landfill has increased by more than four percentage points since the 2008-2011 rolling average baseline. Work on the 10 Year Solid Waste Management Master Plan continued in 2016, producing Jefferson County's first solid waste characterization and a cost analysis of waste-related city services and non-city services provided to residents. The final report, to be released in 2017, will contain specific recommendations for Louisville to reach its 90% diversion goal.

#### GOAL METRIC—BY THE NUMBERS

##### Jefferson County Solid Waste Diversion Rate\*

Baseline: 2008-2011 Average — 48.7%

Current: 2013-2016 Average — 52.9%

Target: 2042 — 90.0%

\*Includes material generated from all sources in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.



- As a result of work completed by Public Work's Solid Waste Management Division (SWMS) and its partners, recycling participation in the suburban areas of Jefferson County increased by nine percentage points over the 2008-2011 rolling average baseline.
- The [Wet-Dry Recycling Program](#), which is explained in this [video](#), expanded into Waterfront Park and the Metro Youth Detention Center. The Louisville Zoo has plans to implement Wet-Dry Recycling in 2017.
- SWMS launched a new initiative, "Stop. Think. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle." Reusable tote bags, reusable water bottles, post-consumer recycled notebooks and key chains were branded with the new logo. These items along with educational handouts were distributed at schools and city events throughout the year. This educational campaign is ongoing.
- Workshops were held on yard waste reduction, recycling and composting through a partnership with the Cooperative Extension Service. Additional educational opportunities will be available in the coming years.
- The Coca Cola Recycle and Win program awarded Kroger gift cards to 270 randomly selected households that recycle.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Achieve 90% residential recycling participation by 2025

##### Recycling Participation Rates in Suburban Jefferson County

Baseline: 2012 — 24%

Current: 2016 — 31%

Target: 2025 — 90%

##### Offer composting, yard waste reduction and recycling workshops

##### Yard Waste Collection Amounts

Baseline: 2014 — 10,816 tons

Current: 2016 — 10,014 tons



# 3.0 TRANSPORTATION

## 2016 Key Successes

- Move Louisville, the city's 20-year multi-modal transportation plan, was released.
- Public Works' traffic engineering team changed the timing on 70 traffic signals in the Central Business District to give pedestrians a walk sign four seconds before motorists crossing the same street get a green light. The head start is meant to reduce pedestrian-vehicle collisions.
- The US Department of Transportation gave Louisville the 2016 Mayors' Challenge Pedestrian and Bicycle Award: Educate and Enforce, for efforts to improve walking and biking.
- The Transit Authority of River City (TARC) introduced six new zero emission electric buses, for a total of 15 in the TARC fleet. The new buses operate on TARC's Fourth Street route to Iroquois Park.



## Goals and Initiatives

# TRANSPORTATION

### GOAL 7. Decrease transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions 20% by 2020

Identify sustainability goals for the strategic multimodal transportation plan that promote transit-oriented development*	Completed 2016
Identify sustainability goals for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan that promote transit-oriented development*	Underway

### GOAL 8. Reduce vehicle miles traveled 500,000 miles daily by 2040

Increase bicycle facilities by 40 lane miles within three miles of the Central Business District	Completed 2014
Investigate feasibility of car share and ride share programs	Completed 2014
Achieve Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Community Status with the League of American Bicyclists	Underway
Increase bicycle lanes and shared lane markings to 200 miles by Fiscal Year 2018	Underway
Increase bicycle ridership 100% from 2012 levels	Underway
Increase TARC ridership 25%	Underway
Launch a bike share program	Underway
Reduce identified gaps in Louisville's sidewalk network	Underway

\* Initiatives were previously combined.



## 3.0 TRANSPORTATION

### PROGRESS ON GOALS AND INITIATIVES

#### Goal 7: Decrease transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions 20% by 2020

##### GOAL METRIC—BY THE NUMBERS

###### GHGs from Transportation-Related Sources

Baseline: 2006 — 4.0M tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

Current: 2015\* — 4.3M tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

Target: 2020 — 3.2M tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

\*2015 Results are estimated using modeled projections. Data reported for this goal include on-road and non-road (e.g., airplanes, tractors, lawn mowers) sources. Results are developed by APCD every three years using a model. Discernable differences are not expected on an annual basis.

The city released its 20-year multi-modal transportation plan, [Move Louisville](#). Projects included in the plan are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. An update to the 2006 transportation greenhouse gas inventory is anticipated in 2017.

- Louisville Metro Government began updating *Cornerstone 2020*, the city's comprehensive plan. The update will incorporate recommendations from *Move Louisville* to promote transit-oriented development.
- Work started on the preliminary design of the Dixie Highway project using funds awarded in 2015 through the TIGER grant. This project will include Bus Rapid Transit, access management, sidewalks, and landscaping and technology upgrades between the Gene Snyder Freeway and downtown. The design will be completed and construction is anticipated to begin in 2017.
- Louisville Metro Government received technical assistance from the Federal Transit Administration to develop an implementation strategy for the Town Centers project. This project will promote transit-oriented development along the Dixie Highway corridor in coordination with the TIGER grant projects announced in 2015. This project is focused on establishing five distinct town centers, rather than transportation along the corridor.
- PARC installed eight free electric vehicle charging stations in their parking facilities.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Plan is currently being updated by the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency (KIPDA). The document, called [Connecting Kentuckiana](#), addresses transportation planning through 2040 for five counties: Jefferson, Bullitt and Oldham counties in Kentucky, and Floyd and Clark counties in Indiana. The [goals and objectives of the plan](#) address roads, bridges, bikeways, walking paths and public transportation. Adoption of the new plan is expected in 2018.
- The former Goal 7 initiative was split into two initiatives to recognize that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update is led by KIPDA and covers a different geography than *Move Louisville*, the city's multi-modal transportation plan.



##### Initiative Completed—Identify sustainability goals for the strategic multimodal transportation plan that promote transit-oriented development

[Move Louisville](#) identifies 16 projects that will help people travel to and from work, increase safety and provide more options for people to get around. Identified projects aim to keep Louisville economically competitive by building and maintaining an innovative transportation system.

## 3.0 TRANSPORTATION

### Goal 8: Reduce vehicle miles traveled 500,000 miles daily by 2040

One of the top two priorities identified in *Move Louisville* is reducing the number of miles that Louisvillians drive by providing and improving mobility options. The plan identifies tactics to advance the city's bicycle network, strategically address sidewalk deficiencies and identify and introduce reliable premium transit options. Implementation plans began to be developed for *Move Louisville* initiatives in 2016, and progress continued on existing transit improvement projects.

- Additional Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds were secured in late 2016 to design sidewalks for the section of Dixie Highway between Crums Lane and Broadway. Construction is expected to take two years.
- From 2012 to 2015 (2016 data is not yet available), bicycle ridership increased by 0.1 percentage point over the 2012 baseline. 2015 ridership levels are down 20% over 2014.
- Work continued on Louisville's public facing bike share system, which launched in summer 2017.
- Three miles of separated bike lanes and 16 miles of shared lane markings were established in Louisville in 2016. Separated bike lanes were installed on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Streets, and a buffered bike lane was added to a section of W. Kentucky St. In addition, bike lane street sweeping frequency increased. All of these accomplishments help support and encourage bicycle ridership.



- Twelve new clean-diesel buses were added to TARC's fleet in 2016, and bus stop signage was replaced system-wide. The new signs list the routes provided at each location. TARC also installed new shelters and benches, and improved sidewalks at many locations throughout the service area. Wi-Fi was added to 51 buses for a total of 100 buses now offering internet access. In 2016, TARC maintained ridership and a stable level of service without increasing fares.
- Public Works added 3,500 linear feet of new sidewalks in 2016, and replaced 13,243 linear feet of sidewalks in poor condition.
- A .5 mile section of the Louisville Loop opened in McNeely Lake Park. Additional sections are in the design and planning phases.

#### GOAL METRIC—BY THE NUMBERS

##### Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled in Louisville

Baseline: 2006 — 19,666,000  
 Current: 2016 — 20,037,000  
 Target: 2025 — 19,166,000

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Increase bicycle lanes and shared lane markings

##### Miles of Bicycle Lanes and Shared Lane Markings

Baseline: 2014 — 105.5  
 Current: 2016 — 154  
 Target: FY2018 — 200

##### Increase bicycle ridership 100% by 2012 levels

##### Percent of the Louisville Community Commuting by Bicycle

Baseline: 2012 — .3%  
 Current: 2015\* — .4%  
 Target: 2025 — .6%

\*2015 is the current year because 2016 data is not yet available through the U.S. Census' American Community Survey.

##### Increase TARC Ridership 25%

##### Persons riding TARC buses

Baseline: FY2010 — 14.41 million  
 Current: FY2016 — 14.03 million  
 Target: FY2025 — 18.01 million



# 4.0 ECONOMY

## 2016 Key Successes

- Louisville Metro Government introduced a [new vendor portal](#) to promote city purchases from local businesses.
- Through the city's [Go Green Loan program](#), \$135,000 was awarded for a new HVAC system at Riverhouse Restaurant and Raw Bar and \$74,625 was awarded for a solar panel installation at Bisig Impact Center.



## Goals and Initiatives

### ECONOMY

#### GOAL 9. Provide business opportunities for clean economy organizations and innovators by 2020

Provide opportunities for the adaptive reuse of brownfields	Underway
Establish a Green Workforce Advisory Team	Planned
Increase the number of businesses actively engaged in greening their operations 20% by 2018	Planned
Launch a clean economy business plan contest	Planned
Research best practices for green business incentive programs	Planned
Establish Green Districts to promote and leverage existing green technology efforts	Proposed

#### GOAL 10. Promote a comprehensive local food system by 2018

Incentivize five small businesses processing Kentucky-raised foods to locate in the Portland neighborhood	Completed 2016
Conduct a study of local food production	Completed 2015
Promote opportunities for community and market gardens on vacant and abandoned properties	Completed 2014
Incorporate Urban Agriculture Guidance in 2013 Land Development Code Amendments	Completed 2013
Provide education and direct marketing/purchasing support for farmers and businesses working with local food	Underway
Support and expand the institutional use of local food	Underway

## PROGRESS ON GOALS AND INITIATIVES

### Goal 9: Provide business opportunities for clean economy organizations and innovators by 2020

- The Office of Advanced Planning continued to support the implementation of the [Louisville Central Rail Corridor Area-wide Brownfields Plan](#). [CycLOUvia](#) was held in the [Three Points](#) corridor for the first time, and the Office helped support several economic development projects near the Germantown Mill Lofts.
- Louisville Metro Government continued working with area developers to make use of the Revolving Loan Fund program. One loan was granted to the Edison Center, LLC., located at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and W Ormsby Ave.
- The city and the University of Louisville Center for Environmental Policy and Management continued developing a Brownfields Community Benefit calculator. The calculator will be piloted in the Russell Neighborhood.

## 4.0 ECONOMY

### Goal 10: Promote a comprehensive local food system

- [Louisville Farm to Table](#) was selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food LINC program to help the USDA understand the role of value chain coordination in developing local and regional food systems.
- Jefferson County Public Schools increased its local purchasing from approximately 3.5% of its total budget in the 2014-2015 school year to nearly 6% of its total budget in the 2015-2016 school year. In the 2016-2017 school year, local food purchases are expected to increase again, and bids are being developed to purchase local ground beef patties in the 2017-2018 school year.
- Several events were held in 2016 that provided support for marketing and purchasing local food. The Organic Association of Kentucky (OAK) annual conference connected consumers and organic farmers with education and technical assistance to promote the benefits of organic production. Numerous OAK field days connected farmers with opportunities for hands-on learning about a variety of organic production issues, including dairy production, hay production, grass management and corn production. A fried chicken cook-off event, called “Feast Off,” was hosted at Resurfaced to promote local food, particularly local protein.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Support and expand the institutional use of local food

###### Institutional Local Food Purchasing

Baseline: 2012 — \$150,572

Current: 2016 — \$1,160,778

Target: 2025 — Continual Growth



#### Initiative Completed—Incentivize five small businesses processing Kentucky-raised foods to locate in the Portland neighborhood

Louisville Metro Government awarded a METCO loan to Please and Thank You to develop Hot Coffee on 17th Street. The facility is a coffee bar and commercial bakery that uses a number of Kentucky-raised ingredients. Louisville Agribusiness Loans were awarded to Gelato Gilberto on Portland Avenue to fund a commercial gelato production space and to Farm to Fork Catering to locate on Portland Avenue and develop a commercial catering operation. A Louisville Agribusiness Loan and a Portland Forgivable Loan were awarded to Kentucky Peerless Distilling Company to fund a micro-distillery and visitors center at 10th and Main. The geographic scope of the Louisville Agribusiness Loan was expanded to include the Portland and Russell neighborhoods in an effort to support small business development in these areas. In total in 2016, four businesses were incentivized to locate in Portland, and more than 27 jobs are expected as a result.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Number of new businesses launched in Portland

Number of new businesses launched in Portland since 2014—7

Number of new jobs expected from new Portland businesses since 2014—54+



# 5.0 COMMUNITY

## 2016 Key Successes

- A public engagement process was launched to update Louisville’s comprehensive plan, [Cornerstone 2020](#). The document will include sustainability as one of five key principles.
- TreesLouisville announced the [One Million Dollar Challenge Grant](#), which matches every donation \$1 for \$1. Upon completion, TreesLouisville will raise \$2 million to support Louisville’s tree canopy.
- Efforts were expanded to engage youth from target neighborhoods in outdoor activities through the [Louisville ECHO](#) program.
- Local and healthy food reached more communities in 2016, with the launch of three new sliding scale payment markets and sixteen additional markets accepting electronic benefits.

## Goals and Initiatives

### COMMUNITY

#### GOAL 11. Support an equitable distribution of local and healthy foods by 2018

Expand the use of electronic benefit transfer mobile readers by at least six additional farmers markets or local food retail outlets	Completed 2016
Open three new farmers markets or local food retail outlets in underserved areas of the community	Completed 2015
Develop a step-by-step guide for citizen engagement in urban agriculture	Completed 2014
Expand the use of electronic benefit transfer mobile readers to three farmers markets	Completed 2013
Identify strategies to incentivize grocers to offer healthy food	Planned

#### GOAL 12. Increase access to green space and recreation resources—Ongoing

Provide nature-based recreation for six schools	Completed 2015
Provide expanded and equitable access to nature for children and families	Underway

#### GOAL 13. Incorporate sustainability into the Land Development Code and the Comprehensive Plan by 2018

Identify standard sustainability elements to include in all small area, corridor and neighborhood plans	Completed 2015
Establish priority sustainability components to include in the Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan	Underway
Implement a green pilot project from the SoBro Neighborhood Plan	Underway

#### GOAL 14. Maintain and expand a robust parks system - Ongoing

Increase the acreage of natural areas land under active management 25%	Completed 2016
Acquire 4,000 acres of park land and conservation easements	Underway
Increase the acreage of natural areas land under active management by an additional 25% – NEW!	Underway

#### GOAL 15. Expand green infrastructure incentives citywide by 2018

Identify green infrastructure best practices and launch an incentive program	Completed 2014
Provide incentives to increase the amount of captured impervious area by 1 million square feet	Underway

#### GOAL 16. Achieve and maintain a 45% tree canopy coverage—Ongoing

Complete an urban tree canopy analysis and establish tree-planting goals	Completed 2015
Complete planting of 5,000 trees in 2014	Completed 2014
Complete planting of 10,000 trees	Completed 2013
Develop a forestry management plan	Underway
Establish community partnerships to implement strategies to mitigate the UHI effect	Underway
Establish partnerships to assist with educating the community on the benefits of trees	Underway
Update the Land Development Code to better support the growth and protection of Louisville’s tree canopy	Underway

## 5.0 COMMUNITY

### PROGRESS ON GOALS AND INITIATIVES

#### Goal 11: Support an equitable distribution of local and healthy foods by 2018

Three new [Fresh Stops](#) launched in 2016. More locations are being identified for 2017.

**Initiative Completed—Expand the use of electronic benefit transfer (EBT) mobile readers to six additional farmers’ markets or local food retail outlets**

##### BY THE NUMBERS

###### Number of markets with EBT readers

Baseline: 2014 — 13

Current: 2016—19

Target: 2025 — 19

The total number of electronic benefit transfer mobile readers surpassed the target in 2016. The number of farmers markets accepting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits at the market level increased from three to six. The number of farmers markets accepting Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) vouchers also expanded from four to thirteen.

In addition, the city’s first double-value coupon program was launched to increase SNAP purchasing power at three farmers markets. All work was completed using a Farmers Market Promotion Program Grant.

#### Goal 12: Increase access to green space and recreation resources—Ongoing

Louisville Metro Government’s Engaging Children Outdoors (Louisville ECHO) program, spearheaded by Metro Parks and Recreation’s Natural Areas Division, is an effort to expand equitable access to nature for Louisville’s youth and families through programming and infrastructure development. In 2016, Louisville ECHO provided fourth grade students at select JCS elementary schools with multiple field experiences to local parks, Jefferson Memorial Forest and a National Park or Forest. In addition, the program offered out-of-school time outdoor recreation opportunities, nature-related community events such as the annual Canoemobile and training and summer employment opportunities for young adults from target neighborhoods.

##### BY THE NUMBERS

###### Provide expanded and equitable access to nature for children and families

###### Number of participating youth

Baseline: 2014 — 650

Current: 2016—895

Target: 2018 — 2000

Louisville ECHO offered infrastructure development through the West Louisville Outdoor Recreation Initiative. In 2016, the program

began working on a satellite nature/stewardship center in Shawnee Park called the Shawnee Outdoor Learning Center. The program also began other projects such as the development of safe canoeing, fishing and nature play areas. These improvements will provide “nearby nature” opportunities for youth and families to explore the outdoors, including the Ohio River.

#### DONATE YOUR LAND FOR CONSERVATION

The [Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust](#), a quasi-governmental land trust, formed by ordinance in 1998, works with private landowners to help them achieve conservation goals for their land. The Trust reviews and makes recommendations about offers of conservation easements to Louisville Metro Council and monitors over 1,000 acres of conservation easement land held by Metro Government each year to ensure the terms of the easements are being upheld. Among other activities, the Trust offers educational programs to help landowners manage their properties in a more sustainable way.

## 5.0 COMMUNITY

### Goal 13: Incorporate sustainability into the Land Development Code and the Comprehensive Plan by 2018

- Louisville Metro Government launched a public engagement process to update the comprehensive plan, [Cornerstone 2020](#). The updated document, which will have a horizon of 2040, will incorporate five key principles: connected, healthy, authentic, sustainable and equitable. An [advisory committee](#) was created to guide the process, and members of the public are encouraged to participate in six [work groups](#). A draft plan is expected in 2018.
- The second round of Land Development Code (LDC) amendments were completed in December 2016. These amendments included updates and improvements to Chapter 10, Tree Canopy, Landscaping and Open Space. The next step is for the 12 legislative bodies in Jefferson County with land development authority to approve the changes.
- The SoBro Louisville Neighborhood Association and Spalding University held SoBro Artwalls, a mural painting event. The mural was designed and outlined by a Kentucky College of Art and Design student. Community members painted the mural, which incorporated a sustainability theme. The project was part of the neighborhood’s efforts to become a vibrant district committed to sustainability principles.

### Goal 14: Maintain and expand a robust parks system – Ongoing

Over 50 acres were added to Jefferson Memorial Forest (JMF) in 2016. The cumulative number was updated to include missing parcels from previous years. Since 2013, 174 acres have been added to the Forest.

#### Initiative Completed—Increase the acreage of natural areas land under active management 25%

In 2016, 24 acres on the Beauchamp and Coogle tracts of JMF received management for woody invasive plants. Follow-up invasive plant treatment was carried out on 18 acres of the Greenwell tract at JMF. Both areas were supported with funding from the National Resources Defense Council. In addition, 500 3-gallon trees were planted on four acres at Caperton Swamp. Funding was provided through an LG&E Plant for the Planet grant. A new initiative was established to increase land under active management by an additional 25%.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Acquire 4,000 acres of park land and conservation easements

##### Amount of additional acreage in JMF

Cumulative Total from 2013-2016 — 188 acres  
Target: 2029 — 4,000 acres

##### Amount of additional acreage in conservation easements and Metro Parks (not including JMF)

Cumulative Total from 2013-2016 — 32 acres  
Target: 2020—2,969 acres

#### BY THE NUMBERS

##### Acres of Land Under Active Management

Baseline: 2014—235 acres  
Current: 2016—404 acres  
Target: 2018—294 acres



## 5.0 COMMUNITY

### METRO PARKS WORKS WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO SUPPORT A HEALTHY AND EXPANSIVE PARKS NETWORK

- [Wilderness Louisville, Inc.](#) helps manage JMF and neighborhood parks
- [Frederick Law Olmsted Parks Conservancy](#) supports the Olmsted-designed and Metro-owned parks and parkways
- [21st Century Parks, Inc.](#) manages the independently operated Parklands of Floyds Fork
- [Louisville Parks Foundation](#) supports the remaining system of Louisville Metro Parks
- [Historic Locust Grove, Inc.](#) and [Riverside, the Farnsley-Moremeyn Landing, Inc.](#) help manage Metro-owned historic properties

These organizations work to preserve and enhance Louisville's legacy of parks and open space to improve quality of life for all citizens.

### Goal 15: Expand green infrastructure incentives citywide by 2018

The Office of Sustainability's [Green Infrastructure Incentive program](#) awarded \$10,000 in 2016 to help fund pervious pavement, infiltration drains, water harvesting and bioswale projects. The Office of Sustainability's fund, combined with funding from [MSD's Green Infrastructure Financing Program](#), contributed to the removal of over 124,000 square feet of surface area that drains into Louisville's sewer system. Last year, MSD's fund helped divert an additional 280,000 square feet of stormwater from impervious surfaces. Since MSD launched its incentive program in 2010, over 250 acres of land have begun managing stormwater on-site.

- Metro Parks installed rain gardens and a bio-swale at the Iroquois Park North Overlook to retain stormwater and minimize erosion on steep slopes and highly erodible soils in the park.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**Provide incentives to increase the amount of captured impervious area by 1 million square feet**

**Amount of captured impervious area funded by incentives**

Cumulative Total as of 2016—124,031 ft<sup>2</sup>  
Target: 2018—1,000,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

### Goal 16: Achieve and maintain a 45% tree canopy coverage —Ongoing

In 2016, 5,714 trees were planted in Louisville, for a total of 31,183 new trees since 2011. Tree planting efforts were led by Metro Parks, the Division of Community Forestry (DCF), community organizations and individual property owners. The language for this goal was updated in 2016 to more accurately reflect the work and intention.

- Last year, DCF established new partners and strengthened existing engagements to increase communications to the public on the benefits of trees. One particular success was the establishments of tree planting programs within neighborhood associations. This program increased bulk planting permit requests 50%.
- Revisions recommended in 2015 to Chapter 10 of the LDC on the topic of tree canopy and landscaping requirements were completed in December 2016 and will next be reviewed by the 12 legislative bodies in Jefferson County with land development authority. Updates to the conservation subdivision regulations were approved by the planning commission in July 2016. The updates define eligibility requirements for conservation subdivisions.



## 6.0 ENGAGEMENT

### 2016 Key Successes

- The third annual Louisville Sustainability Summit featured six community projects and highlighted speakers from Cleveland, OH; Salt Lake City, UT; and Columbus, OH.
- The Partnership for a Green City placed 28 meteorological stations at K-12 schools and educational institutions to collect temperature data and establish a heat monitoring network in Louisville.

### Goals and Initiatives

## ENGAGEMENT

### GOAL 17. Engage the community in sustainability practices and principles – Ongoing

Coordinate with academic institutions to support sustainability education and behavior change programs	Underway
Establish partnerships to provide sustainability education programs for the community, children and organizations	Underway
Provide regular community updates about progress on Louisville’s sustainability goals, via newsletter, social media and other electronic communication	Underway
Launch a community engagement process to develop a signature sustainability project	Planned
Offer sustainability-based community education programs and workshops	Planned

## PROGRESS ON GOALS AND INITIATIVES

### Goal 17: Engage the community in sustainability practices and principles – Ongoing

- Attendees at the third annual Sustainability Summit, hosted by the Office of Sustainability and the [Louisville Sustainability Council](#), learned about sustainability projects in three US cities, as well as projects happening in Louisville. [Watch a video about the 2016 Summit.](#)
- The number of Sustain Louisville e-Newsletter subscribers grew from 1,600 in 2015 to over 2,200 in 2016. Social media engagement increased by 70 percent on Facebook alone, and the number of Twitter followers increased as well.
- Louisville Metro Government continued participation in the [Partnership for a Green City](#) (PGC), which hosted many events and programs in partnership with the Office of Sustainability:
  - Sustainability Directors Roundtable – Sustainability staff from Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Columbus and Toledo shared their successes and challenges.
  - Urban Heat Island Symposium – This event featured an EPA urban heat expert and local specialists.
  - The Urban Heat Island Youth Summit (with [Brightside](#)) – Nearly 200 students in grades 5 through 12 and 50 teachers and volunteers attended and were asked to identify and commit to implementing projects that will help manage Louisville's urban warming.
  - Awards for Urban Heat Mitigation Projects – The Knollenberg Foundation provided grant funds for three schools to implement Youth Summit projects. Ballard High School received \$5,000 for a cool roof coating, Assumption High School received \$3,000 for a green wall and tree planting, and Farnsley Middle School received \$2,000 to strategically plant shade trees around the school and parking lots.
  - Meteorological (Met) Station Installations - Five parochial schools, 22 JCPS schools and Blackacre received Met stations to map baseline urban heat data across Louisville Metro.
  - The Reuse Summit (with Public Works) - Over 130 attendees learned how the strategy of reuse works.
- Brightside’s 2016 cleanliness monitoring, known as the [Brightside Index](#), revealed an average citywide score of 2.10/4 (a score of 1 indicates “minimal or no litter”), down from 2.08 in 2015.
- Five neighborhoods registered for the [Green Living Neighborhood Certification Program](#). Over 1,240 households have been included in the program since the 2014 launch.

## 7.0 LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017 AND 2018

Louisville residents will see many accomplishments over the next two years, including an update to Louisville's citywide greenhouse gas inventory, community engagement for the 100 Resilience Cities program, climate action planning, heat management projects, Comprehensive Plan update, and more tree plantings and free giveaways. The five year update of Sustain Louisville is anticipated in 2018. The update will further refine the city's goals and initiatives and will include a focus on health, equity and the human impacts of the changing climate.

As our community works towards becoming an

equitable, healthier and more sustainable city, we would like to acknowledge the community contributions from many citizens, businesses and organizations that have invested time and resources towards helping Louisville be a greener and healthier city. The metrics show improvement year after year and we will keep working to move the needle further next year. We look forward to continued growth, progress and success in the coming years.

Community feedback and engagement are encouraged as we work toward achieving the goals in Sustain Louisville. Please contact the Office of Sustainability to get involved.

### ABOUT THE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

**The Office of Sustainability's mission is to promote environmental conservation, promote the health, wellness and prosperity of our citizens, and embed sustainability into the culture of the Louisville community.**

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