



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Denton Recognized as LEED Certified City**

**DENTON, TX, Nov. 16, 2018** – As part of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Cities certification program, the City of Denton was recently recognized as a LEED Certified City. LEED for Cities is a program from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) that advances healthy, green, and economically strong cities and communities.

“We are helping cities develop responsible, sustainable, and specific plans for energy, water, waste, transportation, and many other factors that contribute to raising the standard of living for all people around the world,” said Mahesh Ramanujam, USGBC president & CEO. “Denton is to be congratulated for its commitment to ensuring a place where people, nature, and businesses can all thrive.”

Denton is one of only 75 STAR certified cities and communities in the nation that has now joined the family of LEED for Cities.

“Denton will reach an even higher level of leadership where they will be able to benchmark their current performance; hone in on targeted metrics to achieve continuous improvement; and demonstrate a commitment to sustainability, human health, and economic prosperity,” added Ramanujam.

“Denton’s strong commitment to improve our city’s performance qualifies us to join the ranks of LEED Cities around the world,” said Mayor Chris Watts. “Our STAR certification – earned last October – has provided a great foundation for future work with the U.S. Green Building Council, and we look forward to openly tracking and communicating our continued social, economic, and environmental performance so that the people of Denton can see our progress.”

Cities and communities face many challenges in this day and age. Citizens are demanding more transparency and information about the places where they live, work, learn, and play. LEED for Cities addresses these concerns on a global scale.

LEED for Cities is helping to accelerate the leadership now being shown by city and community leaders. LEED helps cities and communities benchmark current performance; track performance metrics; communicate continuous improvement; and educate residents, visitors, and business owners on how to demonstrate commitment to sustainability, human health, and economic prosperity. As a result, local governments are becoming laboratories of innovation and leadership, and have an enormous opportunity to initiate a dynamic dialogue with citizens – and earn their trust in the process.

### **OUR CORE VALUES**

Integrity • Fiscal Responsibility • Transparency • Outstanding Customer Service

“Denton is looking forward to integrating the LEED for Cities framework into the Sustainability Plan update and adopting strategies and actions for continued improvement” said Katherine Barnett, Sustainability Manager.

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