

City of Kansas City, Missouri



SNAPSHOT

Country	USA
Project Area	201408 acres 815.1 sq.km
Population	508090 (2020)
Demographics	55.5% White; 26.5% Black or African American; 10.7% Hispanic or Latino; 6.3% Two or More Races; 3.4% Other
Leadership	Mayor Quinton Lucas
Key Stakeholders and Partners:	City Staff, Evergy, Spire, Bridging the Gap, Metropolitan Energy Center, Mid-America Regional Council

PROJECT DETAILS

Certified on: February 27th, 2023

Certification level: Gold

City of Kansas City, Missouri named LEED Gold and recognized for its sustainability and resilience achievements

"Kansas City has taken several steps to help us reach our goal of climate neutrality for city operations by 2030. Our goal is to reach climate neutrality by the year 2040. The passage of our Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan, which establishes a roadmap to drastically cut our greenhouse gas emissions, while centering public health and equity in our policies and operations. We've already seen great successes at City Hall, we've reduced our greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 25%. We're working with community partners to ensure we're building a more resilient energy system for the future," Mayor Quinton Lucas said.

SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES

- Develop and implement comprehensive strategies and risk assessments to locally address both existing and future natural and man-made hazards
- Commitment to a Low Carbon Economy is demonstrated through an annually consistent decrease in Greenhouse Gas Intensity from 2018-2020
- Prioritize community-centered approaches to environmental health, food access, and local economic development.
- Create sustainable and efficient water supply networks, water system infrastructure, and water service technology for the City's residents and businesses.



Certification Overview

The City of Kansas City achieved LEED Cities Gold certification by earning 66 points out of the possible 110 points available across nine credit categories as illustrated. Some of the most significant strategies that contributed to the certification include the City's focused approach to sectors like NS reflecting commitment to parks and open spaces and WE reflecting commitment to efficiently and responsibly source their water. In addition, the City is making notable strides with innovative environmental health, food access, and economic development efforts.



Performance Score | Key Metrics

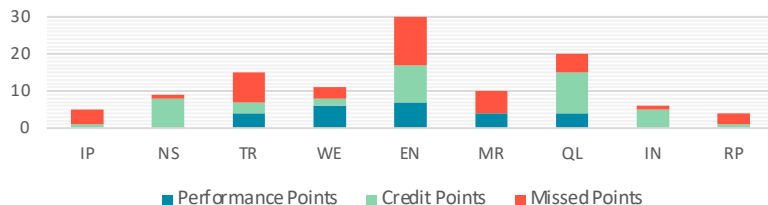
72/100 | Transportation Performance

100/100 | Water Performance

70/100 | Energy and Emissions Performance

94/100 | Waste Performance

73/100 | Quality of Life Performance



Category	Points Achieved/ Points Available
INTEGRATIVE PROCESS (IP)	1/5
NATURAL SYSTEMS AND ECOLOGY (NS)	8/9
TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE (TR)	7/15
WATER EFFICIENCY (WE)	8/11
ENERGY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (EN)	17/30
MATERIALS AND RESOURCES (MR)	4/10
QUALITY OF LIFE (QL)	15/20
INNOVATION (IN)	5/6
REGIONAL PRIORITY (RP)	1/4
TOTAL POINTS ACHIEVED	66/110

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INTEGRATIVE PROCESS

1/5

INTEGRATIVE PLANNING PROCESS

The City of Kansas City LEED for Cities project team was lead by The Office of Environmental Quality.



ENERGY PERFORMANCE TRACKING AND DISCLOSURE

In 2015, the City Council of Kansas City adopted the Energy Empowerment Ordinance and update, to improve the city's management of resources by requiring owners of large buildings to benchmark and report their energy and water use. As stated in Chapter 17 of our City Code of Ordinances, "the energy and water use of covered property shall be benchmarked and submitted to the city." The reported benchmarking information for the previous calendar year is published for the public to see September 1 and a report on the benchmarking of all covered property is produced annually by December 31.



NATURAL SYSTEMS AND ECOLOGY

8/9

ACCESSIBLE GREEN SPACE AND NATURAL RESOURCE ACREAGE

The City of Kansas City has 18,816 acres of total green space, which translates to around 1,611 square feet (0.04 acres) (2021) of accessible green space per resident. Around 70% of the residences are within half a mile distance of these green spaces.



RESILIENCE PLANNING: VULNERABILITY AND CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

As part of creating a new Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan (CPRP) for Kansas City, the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) was updated in 2022. The assessment identifies major natural hazards in the area as well as cascading climate risks, as defined by the CDC. Adaptive capacity in relation to mapped hazards was also measured for the City of Kansas City.

The City of Kansas City and its community partners are already taking action to build adaptive capacity against both primary climate hazards and cascading climate risks (man-made). This includes plans, policies, programs, and infrastructure improvements to help community members mitigate and adapt to climate related impacts like extreme heat and flooding. Some of these efforts are top down, such as Kansas City's Digital Equity Strategic Plan, an effort spearheaded by the City Manager's Office to improve equitable access to the digital economy. Other efforts are bottom up, such as grassroots organizations like Deep Roots KC and the Giving Grove, that serve as community partners in improving resiliency.

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TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

7/15

TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE

The City of Kansas City achieved a transportation performance score of 72/100 based on the the measured value of 21 (2020) vehicles miles travelled per person per day.

INTERMODAL CONNECTIVITY

The City of Kansas City has 5 multimodal transit hubs – 3-Trails Transit Center, 3rd & Grand Transit Center, 75th & Prospect Transit Center at Alphapointe, Boardwalk Square, and East Village Transit Center. The East Village Transit Center is the largest hub hosting 15 bus routes, an indoor waiting area, accessibility features for people with disabilities, bike racks, RideKC bike rentals, and real-time information.

The City is in the process of transitioning bus fleets to use alternative fuel sources and is making access to electric vehicle charging stations more widely available to the public.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The City of Kansas City takes applications for designation of historic districts, landmarks, or overlay zoning districts from owners and, once the application has been filed, ensures that no new permits can be issued for the alteration, construction, demolition, or removal of a property being considered for designation under an application. The commission allows for public participation in their monthly meetings.



WATER EFFICIENCY

8/11

WATER PERFORMANCE

The City of Kansas City achieved a water performance score of 100/100 based on the daily per capita domestic water consumption value of 38 gallons (2020).

WATER EFFICIENCY AND METERING

Given Kansas City is in such a water-rich area with abundant Missouri River and Alluvial Aquifer resources, the amount withdrawn comprises only a small part of the total river and aquifer potential. The majority of the water supply the City has available to them is found in alluvial aquifers, which can contain around 15 times the amount of water in the river.

Kansas City has adopted various strategies to create a more efficient water supply network. One of the most extensive plans for the automation of this system is called the Smart Sewer Program. This program, which accounts for over 3,400 miles in storm and sanitary sewer systems, aims to capture 85% of the combined sewer flows and eliminate wet weather separate sewer overflows (under certain conditions).

In order to improve the City's water system infrastructure more effectively, Kansas City has adopted a 100 Year Water Main Replacement Plan. To replace all 2,800 miles of underground water mains within the 100-year time frame, the City aims to replace 1 percent each year.

The City also utilized technology to better their water services is by installing large flow meters to track water usage more accurately. These flow meters allow water usage on large commercial accounts to be tracked. Between 2012 and 2017 alone, the City was able to bring the accounted-for water rate from 69% to 78%.



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ENERGY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS 17/30

ENERGY PERFORMANCE

The City of Kansas City achieved an energy performance score of 70/100 based on the total annual per capita scope 1 and scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors measured as 18.30 MTCO₂ (2020).

The City of Kansas City is committed to a Low Carbon Economy and is demonstrating an annually consistent decrease in Greenhouse Gas Intensity from 2018-2020.



RENEWABLE ENERGY

The City of Kansas City produces 4.41 GWh of renewable energy annually totalling to 28.7% of the City's power supply. Wind power is the main source of renewable energy for the City.

GRID HARMONIZATION

Eversource, Kansas City's energy provider, utilizes comprehensive tariff schemes that offer flexible and customized pricing for energy consumers throughout different times of the day. Such pricing customization incentivizes load shifting for consumers. The "Time of Use Tariff Scheme" illustrates pricing during peak, off-peak, and super off-peak hours, as well as the seasonal price changes.



MATERIALS AND RESOURCES 4/10

WASTE PERFORMANCE

The City of Kansas City achieved a waste performance score of 94/100 based on a municipal solid waste (MSW) generation rate of 0.19 tons per person per year and a landfill diversion rate of 30% (2020).

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Currently, the City of Kansas City does not track all construction and demolition (C&D) waste, but there are two major landfills that are designed for C&D waste. For 2020 the total sum of tons was 110,424 at these two facilities. Strategy W-1 in the Climate Protection and Resiliency plan is to "divert waste from the landfill and reduce illegal dumping." Strategy W-3 is "reduce waste and embodied carbon by expanding the reuse and repair economy." Both strategies intersect with C&D waste and are planned to be implemented within the next 5 years.



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QUALITY OF LIFE

15/20

QUALITY OF LIFE PERFORMANCE

The City of Kansas City achieved the quality of life performance score of 73/100 by tracking and measuring the key indicators of education, equitability, prosperity, health, and safety related to elevating the living standards of all people in the city (2021):

- Population with high school degree: 90.0%
- Population with bachelor's degree: 35.2%
- Median household income: \$55,259
- Median gross rent as % of household income: 28.4%
- Unemployment Rate: 3.2%
- Gini coefficient: 0.46
- Violent crime rate per capita per year: 0.02
- Median air quality index: 50
- Air quality days unhealthy for sensitive groups: 13



CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Office of Citizen Engagement (OCE) was created to enhance the relationship between Kansas City residents and local government. The City's programs are designed to educate, engage, inform, empower, and energize the community. They believe every resident and visitor has the right to accessible City services and a transparent, accountable City government.



INNOVATION

5/6

INNOVATIVE PERFORMANCE

The City of Kansas City demonstrated innovative performance by achieving the following:

1. Targeted Industry Development: Increase the total number of new businesses in targeted industry sectors over time. The City created a grading system based upon anticipated fiscal and strategic project impacts to evaluate projects by understanding how they further the objectives of the City's current economic development and incentive policy.

2. Healthy Buildings: The City plans to adopt a set of strategies to meet the following goals: increase building efficiency and health for commercial and public buildings, improve the efficiency, affordability, and durability of homes, ensure climate-ready efficient construction, and transition building systems to use clean, reliable electricity.

3. Food Access: The City of Kansas City aims to improve their food system to promote climate justice by providing all the neighborhoods with access to fresh, healthy food, opportunities to reap the benefits of and participate in urban agriculture, and support pathways toward self-sufficiency.

4. Composting: The city must expand and promote small-and large-scale composting by coordinating across composting and solid waste service providers, and community organizations, to introduce and expand composting services and Work to remove barriers to composting and create new localized opportunities to drop off and distribute organic material.

5. Reuse and Repair: The City intends to cultivate a reuse and repair economy to reduce material consumption, increase waste diversion, and create green jobs.



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REGIONAL PRIORITY

1/4

The City of Kansas City demonstrated achievement of the following strategies that address geographically specific socio-economic and environmental priorities:



High Priority Site and Brownfield Remediation:

Using EPA grants, the City supports public and private redevelopment of Brownfields sites with assessment services and provides loans and subgrants for environmental clean-up. Clean-ups can be funded with loans or subgrants from a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). The City operates two RLFs: one for sites in Kansas City, Missouri, and a Regional RLF for sites in Jackson County or Kansas City, Missouri, or in Kansas City, Kansas.