



IN PURSUIT OF Sustainability

MPO TAC

July 8, 2013



SUSTAINABILITY
TOOLS FOR
ASSESSING &
RATING COMMUNITIES



STAR Communities helps cities and counties achieve meaningful sustainability through the *first national framework* for local community efforts.

Set Goals. Measure Progress.

WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY?

Every community is different, but the common goals are:

- a **Healthy Environment**
- a **Strong Economy**
- the **Well-Being of the People** in the Community

WHY IS SUSTAINABILITY IMPORTANT FOR COMMUNITIES?

Overlapping improvement efforts at a local level has a powerful and positive effect on the quality of life and future of a community. Sustainability also makes a direct impact by making the most of local resources and innovation.

THE STAR COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM HELPS LOCAL COMMUNITIES GET THERE!

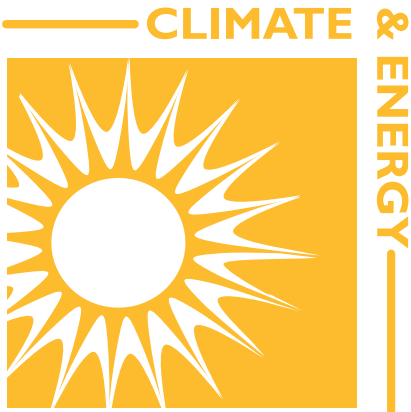
The STAR Community Rating System is an active roadmap *and* a measuring system.

Local leaders can use the Rating System to assess how sustainable they already are, set goals for moving ahead and measure progress along the way – all through easy to follow goals online at www.STARcommunities.org.

32 Pilot Cities & Counties



Sustainability Goals



Goals

O B J E C T I V E S

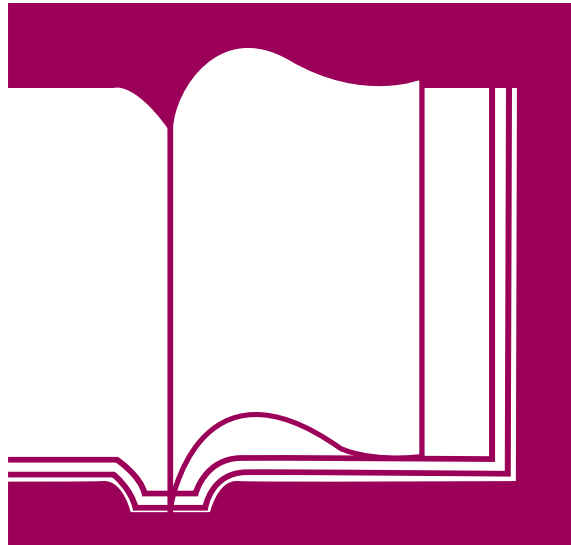
Built Environment	Climate & Energy	Education, Arts & Community	Economy & Jobs	Equity & Empowerment	Health & Safety	Natural Systems
Ambient Noise & Light	Climate Adaptation	Arts & Culture	Business Retention & Development	Civic Engagement	Active Living	Green Infrastructure
Community Water Systems	Greenhouse Gas Mitigation	Community Cohesion	Green Market Development	Civil & Human Rights	Community Health & Health System	Invasive Species
Compact & Complete Communities	Greening the Energy Supply	Educational Opportunity & Attainment	Local Economy	Environmental Justice	Emergency Prevention & Response	Natural Resource Protection
Housing Affordability	Industrial Sector Resource Efficiency	Historic Preservation	Quality Jobs & Living Wages	Equitable Services & Access	Food Access & Nutrition	Outdoor Air Quality
Infill & Redevelopment	Resource Efficient Buildings	Social & Cultural Diversity	Targeted Industry Development	Human Services	Indoor Air Quality	Water in the Environment
Public Spaces	Resource Efficient Public Infrastructure		Workforce Readiness	Poverty Prevention & Alleviation	Natural & Human Hazards	Working Lands
Transportation Choices	Waste Minimization				Safe Communities	



Education, Arts & Community

Empower vibrant, educated, connected, and diverse communities

Objective	Points
Arts & Culture	15
Community Cohesion	15
Educational Opportunity & Attainment	20
Historic Preservation	10
Social & Cultural Diversity	10
Goal Area Total	70



Arts & Culture

Provide a broad range of arts and cultural resources and activities that encourage participation and creative self-expression

15 points

EVALUATION MEASURES

Community Level Outcomes

Outcome 1: Creative Industries

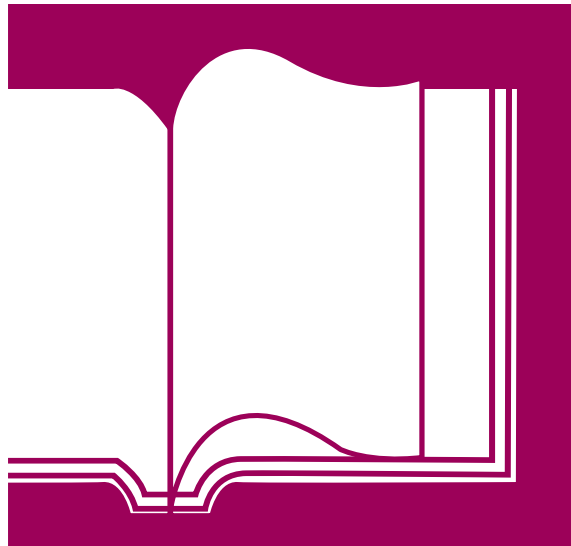
Demonstrate that creative industries represent at least a 5% share of all businesses in the county

Outcome 2: Attendance and Participation

Part 1: Demonstrate that at least 50% of adult residents attend a live performing arts event annually

--AND--

Part 2: Demonstrate that at least 30% of adult residents visit an art museum annually



Arts & Culture

Provide a broad range of arts and cultural resources and activities that encourage participation and creative self-expression

15 points

EVALUATION MEASURES

Local Actions

1. Adopt a strategic plan to protect and expand the community's arts and cultural resources and strengthen creative industries
2. Adopt ordinances requiring public art to be installed as part of new major development projects
3. Establish enterprise zones for cultural districts
4. Collaborate with private, non-profit, or regional organizations to increase arts and participation in the arts
5. Track participation and attendance at major community arts and cultural events
6. Provide financial, logistical support to local arts festivals, performances, or cultural tourism
7. Hire local artists to create artwork or perform in public spaces
8. Develop programs to advance arts education that is aligned with core curriculum in all public schools
9. Provide or fund for development training programs that serve artists, writers, and other creative industries professionals
10. Ensure that major arts and cultural facilities are accessible to people with disabilities
11. Protect and maintain local public artworks and cultural resources for future generations

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Evaluation measures



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Built Environment
Ambient Noise & Light
Community Water Systems
Compact & Complete Communities
Housing Affordability
Infill & Redevelopment
Public Spaces
Transportation Choices

Transportation Choices Objective

OUTCOME

1. Multi-model Use Distribution
2. Transportation Affordability
3. Transportation Safety
4. Vehicle miles travelled

Select Actions

1. Bicycle/Ped Master Plan
2. Adopt Complete Streets
3. Walkability Standards
4. ADA compliant transportation infrastructure



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Built Environment
Ambient Noise & Light
Community Water Systems
Compact & Complete Communities
Housing Affordability
Infill & Redevelopment
Public Spaces
Transportation Choices

Complete Communities Objective

OUTCOME

1. Density, Destinations, and Transit
2. Walkability
3. Community Design

Select Actions

1. Policies to support mixed use
2. Walkability standards
3. TOD
4. Access to transit



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Health & Safety
Active Living
Community Health & Health System
Emergency Prevention & Response
Food Access & Nutrition
Indoor Air Quality
Natural & Human Hazards
Safe Communities

Active Living

OUTCOME

1. Active Adults
2. Active Kids

Select Actions

1. Incentivize bike and ped amenities for development
2. Bicycle-friendly school siting
3. Recognition as a **Bicycle-Friendly Community**
4. Systematic improvement of community bicycle and ped facilities

Recognitions & Certifications



**RATING is
GOOD for
3 YEARS**

Participating STAR Community: Registered intent to use the rating system

Reporting STAR Community (50-199 points): Registered intent to report and met basic prerequisite of completing objectives in all 7 goal areas

3-STAR Community (200-399 points)
Recognized for sustainability leadership

4-STAR Community (400-599 points)
Recognized for national excellence

5-STAR Community (600+ points)
Recognized as top tier achiever in national sustainability

STAR will help my community . . .

1. Streamline data collection *then* benchmark and measure progress.
2. Make more informed decisions.
3. Learn from a common framework.
4. Plan for and implement effective strategies.
5. Marshall credibility and recognition.
6. Communicate progress to the community and its leaders.





Do you have data to contribute?

Contact

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Questions?



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