



Office of Sustainability Update to the Sustainable Food Policy Board

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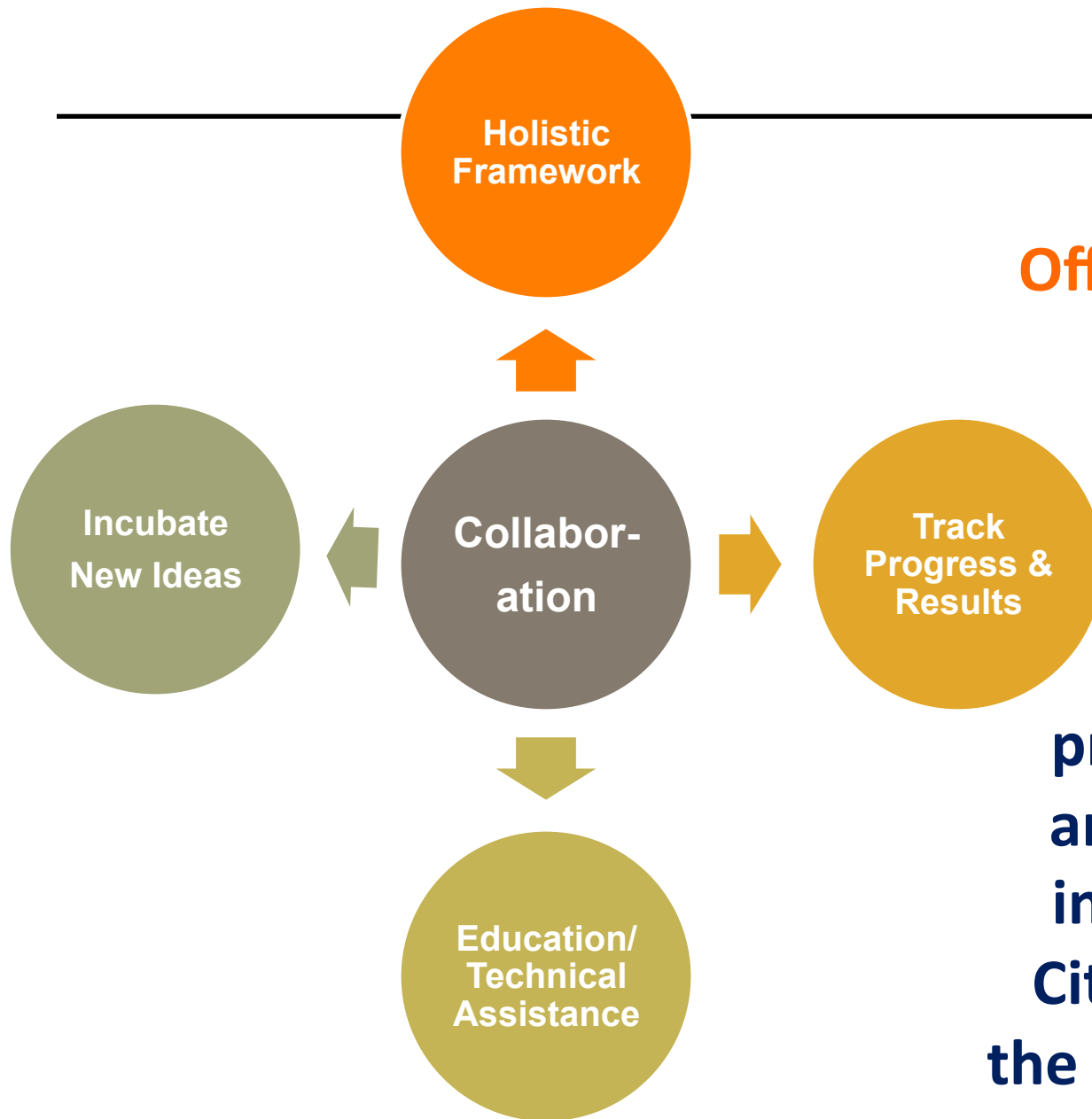
November 26, 2012

Outline

1. Office of Sustainability mission and goals
2. Sustainability Action Agenda
3. STAR Community Rating System



**Food and
urban
agriculture**



**Office of Sustainability
Mission:**

We advance local sustainability and climate action by providing leadership and coordination for initiatives across the City organization and the Austin community.



Coordinated
framework
for sustainability



Performance
goals and metrics

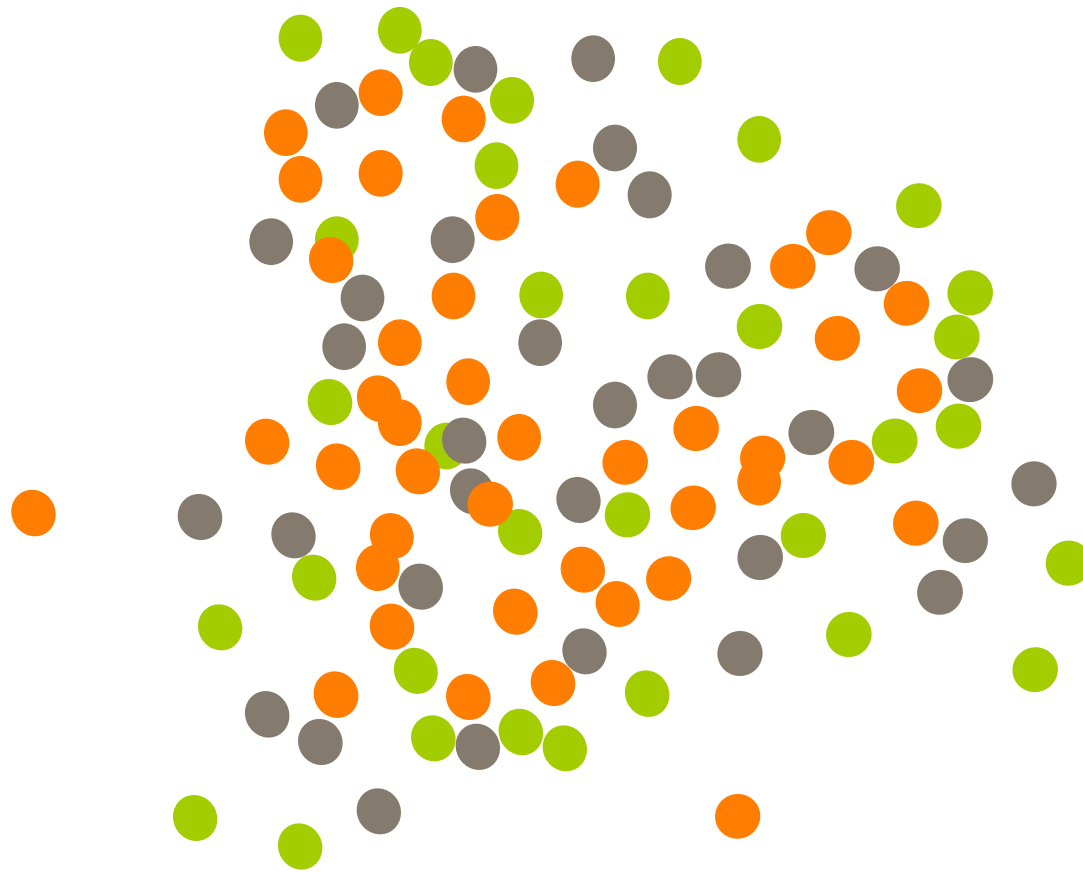


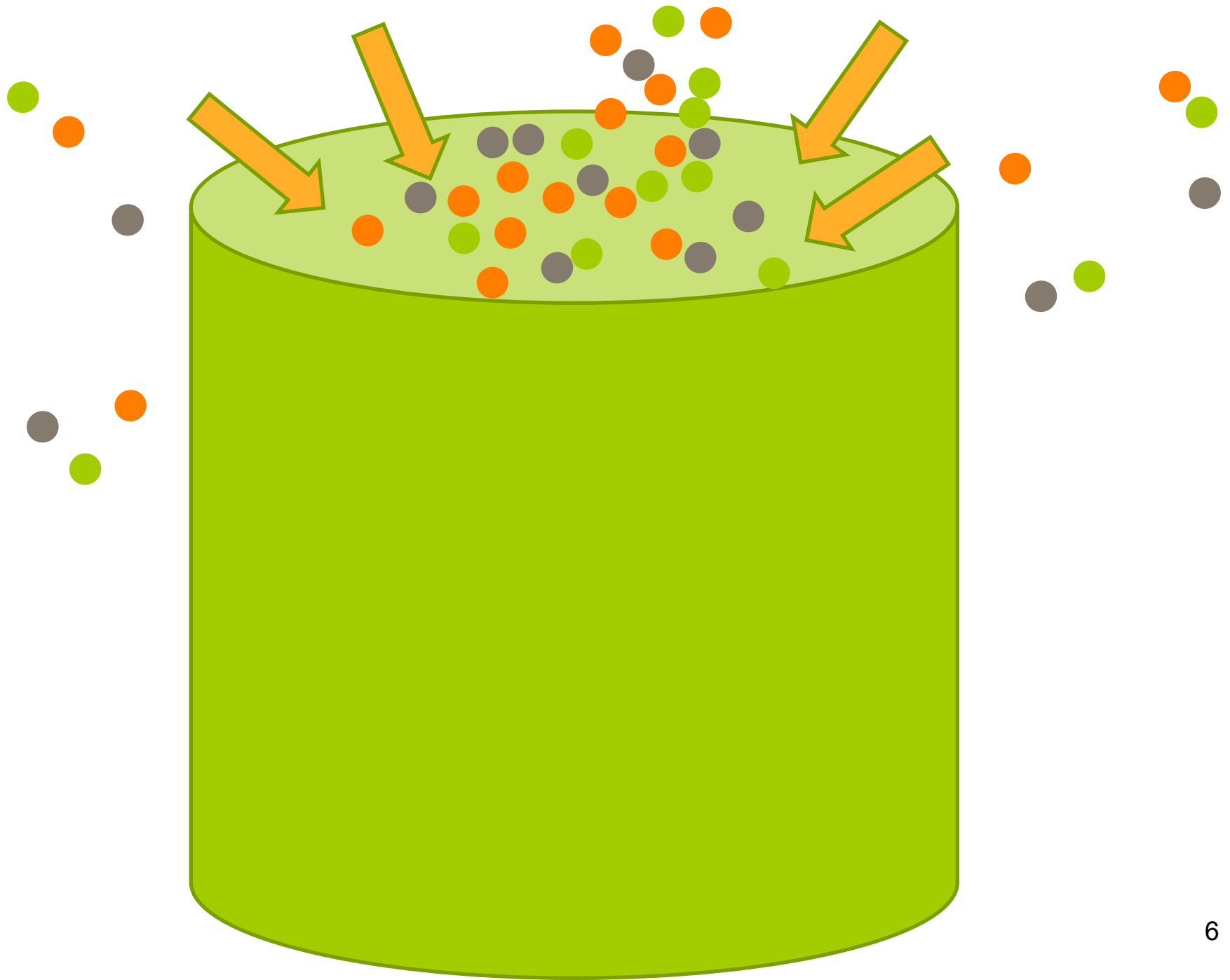
Annual progress
reports

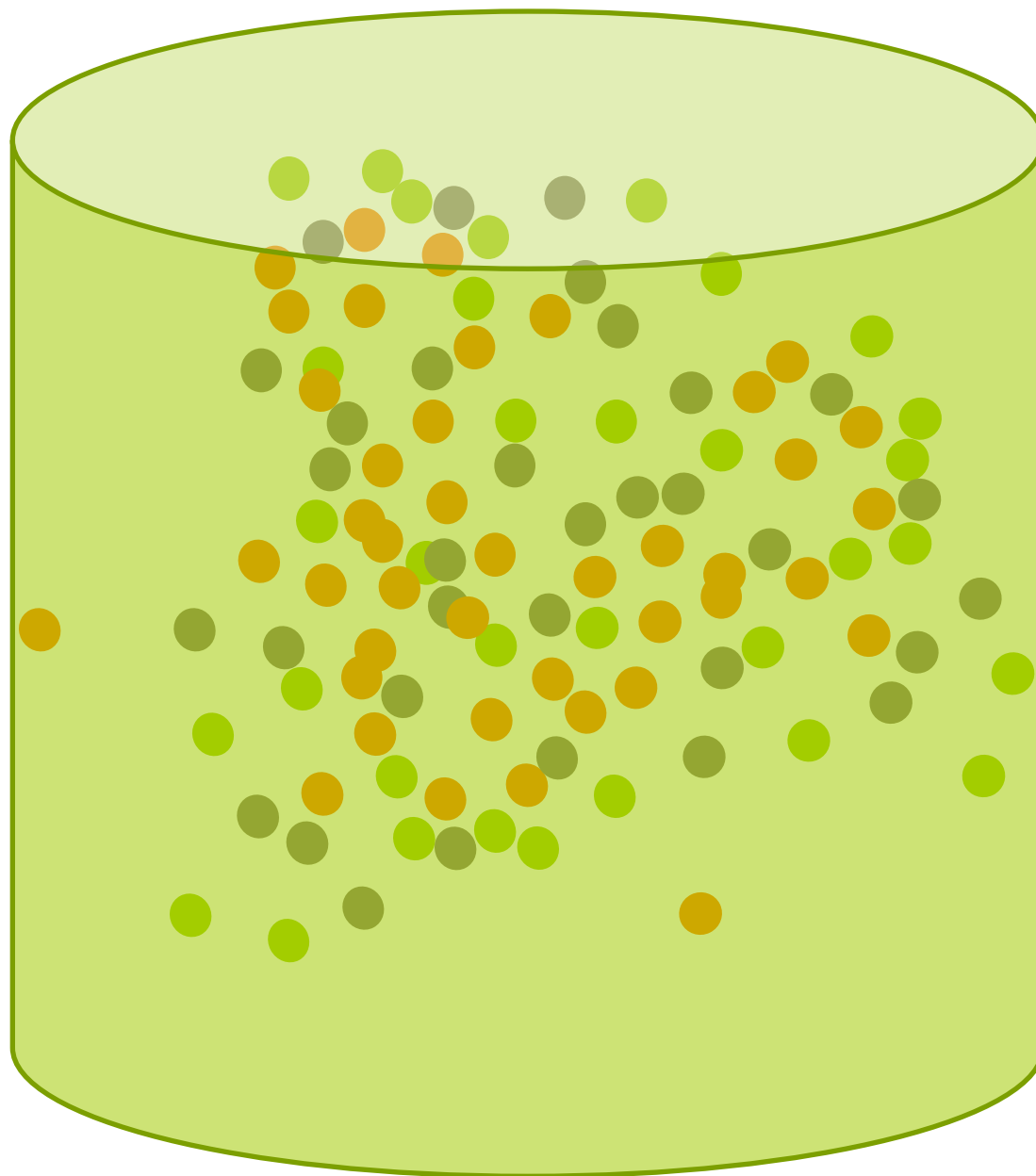


City-wide
collaboration

a million points of light







Sustainability *Action Agenda*

- Inventory & Cohesive management framework
- Triple Bottom Line – People • Planet • Prosperity
- Track progress & celebrate achievements





Framework

10

Areas of
innovation

40

Signature
initiatives

150+

Projects

24

Months to
real progress

Features



Coordinated
framework
for sustainability



Performance
goals and metrics



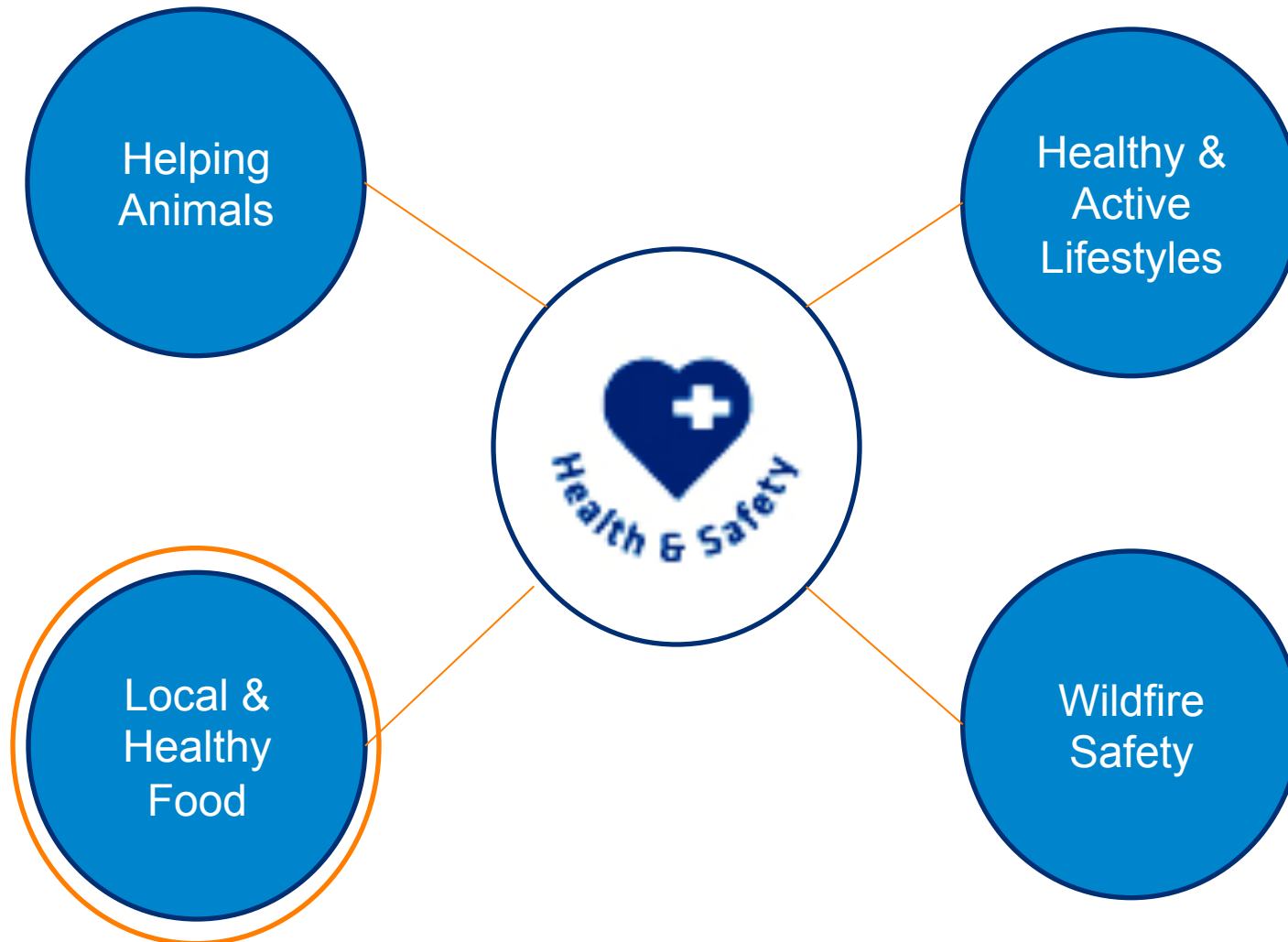
Annual progress
reports



City-wide
collaboration

260 action
items!





Local & Healthy Food



Assist with the delivery of 6 Garden Leadership Trainings to reach 200 citizens

Begin implementation of policy, environment, and/or system changes that promote healthy food and beverages sold at institutions of higher learning

Begin implementation of policy, environment, and/or system changes to create Healthy Food Zones near public K-12 school campuses

Establish 2 demonstration and training gardens

Formalize Urban Farm Incubator Collaboration Project

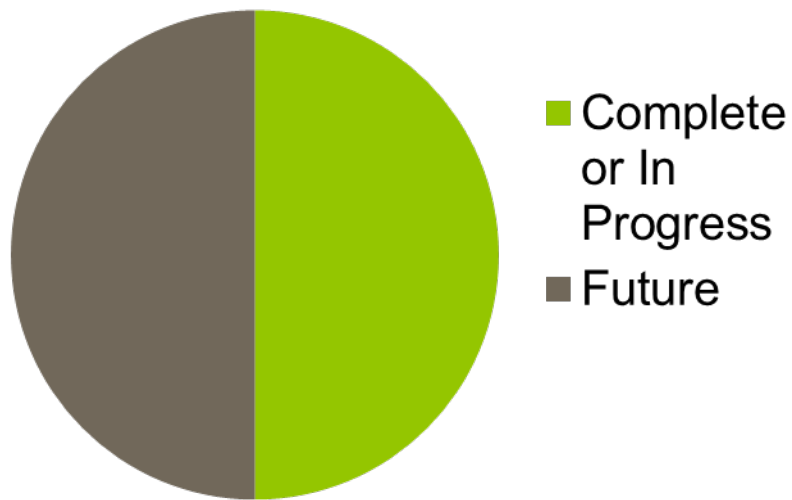
Implement 4-6 new community gardens

Integrate a new and interactive farm land platform which would be accessible on program's new website

Secure \$15 million in grant funding to partner with local businesses to eliminate food deserts (EGRSO)

Local & Healthy Food

6 Month Status (%)



- Living document
- Refresh activities for new round beginning after year 1

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SUSTAINABILITY
TOOLS FOR
ASSESSING &
RATING COMMUNITIES



A ground-breaking program that will offer local governments a roadmap for improving community sustainability.

- **Standard and comprehensive approach**
- **National, consensus-based framework (rating system)**
- **Sustainability planning and performance management tool**

Pilot Participants

- Albany, NY
- Atlanta, GA*
- **Austin, TX***
- Broward County, FL
- Chandler, AZ
- Chattanooga, TN*
- Cleveland, OH
- Davenport, IA
- DeKalb County, GA
- Des Moines, IA*
- El Cerrito, CA
- Evanston, IL
- Fort Collins, CO
- Indianapolis, IN
- King County, WA*
- Lee County, FL
- Northampton, MA
- Portland, OR
- Riverside, CA



- Rockingham County, NC
- Santa Fe, NM
- Santa Monica, CA
- St. Louis, MO*
- Seattle, WA
- Tacoma, WA
- Tucson, AZ
- Victoria, Canada
- Washington, DC*
- Woodbridge Township, NJ

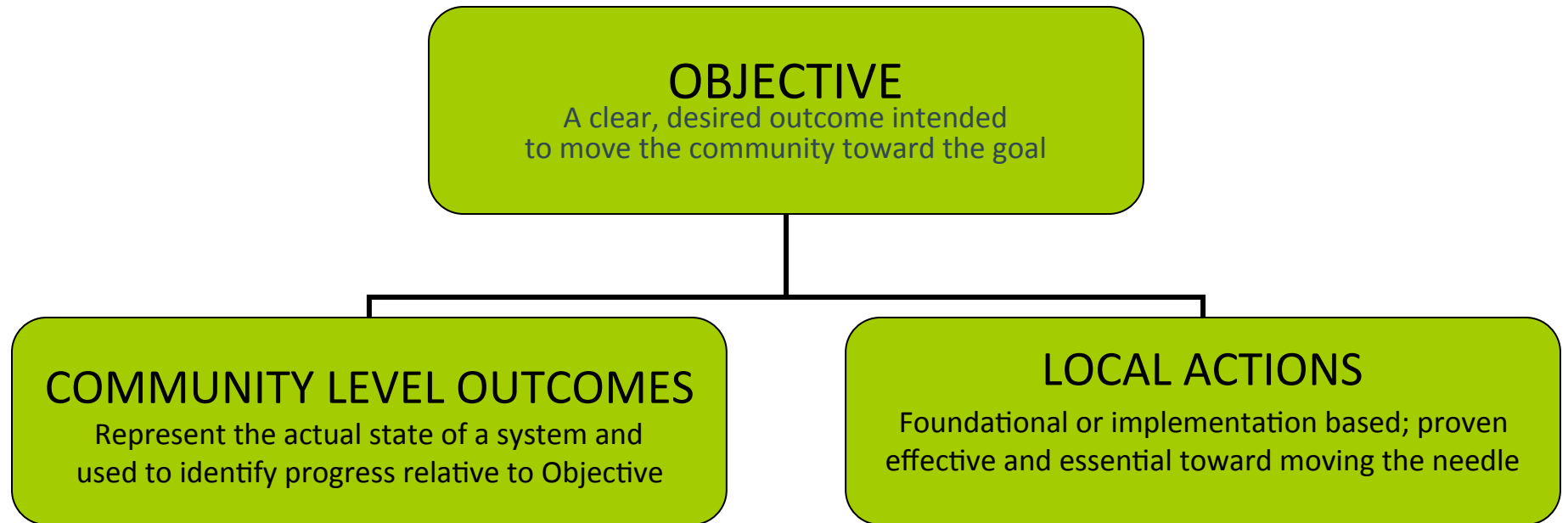
STAR's Sustainability Goals



Objectives

Built Environment	Climate & Energy	Education, Arts, & Culture	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	

Rating System Framework



Food Access & Nutrition

Purpose

Ensure that adults and children of all income levels have opportunities to learn about nutritious eating and have physical and economic access to fresh, healthful food

Community Level Outcomes

Outcome 1: Local Fresh Food

Option A: Demonstrate an increase over the past 3 years in the amount of fresh food produced through local urban agriculture

--OR--

Option B: Demonstrate an increase over the past 3 years in the amount of fresh food sold locally at farmers markets or other direct farm-to-consumer activities

Outcome 2: Food Security and Assistance

Demonstrate an increase over the past 3 years in the ability of low-income families to access low-cost, healthful food

Outcome 3: Access to Healthful Food

Option A: Demonstrate an increase over the past 3 years in the percentage of residents within a walkable 1/4-mile of a healthful retail food outlet

--OR--

Option B: Demonstrate a decrease over the past 3 years in the percentage of residents living in a urban or rural food desert

Outcome 4: School Nutrition

Demonstrate an increase over the past 3 years in the food service sales of fresh fruits and vegetables in the largest public school district

Local Actions

1. Conduct an assessment of the local food system, including existing policies and programs that increase access to healthful food and nutrition education
2. Adopt zoning and development regulations that support or incentivize farmers markets, community gardens, and urban agriculture
3. Adopt zoning and development regulations that limit or prohibit the sale of unhealthful foods
4. Adopt menu-labeling requirements or regulations that discourage, tax, or prohibit the sale of unhealthful foods or beverages
5. Demonstrate that the local public school district has adopted a model school wellness policy
6. Establish a local or regional food policy council that includes health professionals, community organizations, schools, farmers, and/or related businesses
7. Develop public outreach materials, classes, or workshops for residents to learn about food, nutrition, and gardening OR develop public outreach materials to promote food assistance programs
8. Demonstrate that local schools or the public school district has received certification from the USDA Healthier US Schools Challenge or an award from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation in the past 3 years
9. Purchase and sell healthful food at facilities owned, leased, and operated by the local government
10. Implement an "Increase Your Food Bucks" program for farmers markets
11. Provide incentives for healthful retail food outlets to locate in underserved areas or for mobile vendors that only sell fresh food

Timeline

- Internal feasibility assessment through December 2012
- Technical guide + scoring tool released
- Documentation phase January-October 2013
- STAR Community 101 Workshop:
 - Tuesday, Nov 27th, 1pm EDT
 - Wednesday, Dec 5th, 3pm EDT

Thank you!
Questions?

[austintexas.gov/
sustainability](http://austintexas.gov/sustainability)

[facebook.com/
austinsustainability](https://facebook.com/austinsustainability)

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rethink / *Austin*
FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE