

Office of Sustainability and Resiliency

EPA Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant

11.05.2024



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Overview

- **Background** of Grant Development
- **Details** of Grant Requirements
- **Collaborators** of Grant Programming
- **Work Plan** for Grant Programming
- **Deliverables** of Grant Programming

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Background



- Funders Network “Partners for Places” Grant awarded in 2023
- City Sustainability Office + CBOs + Local Funder
- Cooper Foundation provided matching funds
- \$300,000 total for S.C.R.A.P. Collective projects
- 123,000 lbs of food waste diverted from landfill
- Engaged over 4,000 community members through 100+ events

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Background



THE SCRAP PARTNERS

- Mission Waco – Urban REAP
- World Hunger Relief
- Global Revive
- Family of Faith Worship Center
- Da’Shack Farmers Market
- Baylor University
- City of Waco Sustainability Office

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Background



PLANNING PROCESS

- Funders Network Planning Grant awarded in early 2024.
- **HARC** (Houston Advanced Research Center) was contracted for grant support. Waco became familiar with them through EPA Solar For All grant (\$250 million award).
- HARC facilitated an all-day workshop with all the grant partners to flesh out the application.

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Details



GRANT OVERVIEW

- “To support comprehensive community and place-based approaches to redressing environmental and climate injustices for communities facing legacy pollution, climate change, and persistent disinvestment.”
- “Concentrated local investments will fund community-driven, change-making projects that center collaborative efforts for healthier, safer, and more prosperous communities.”

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Details



GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- Statutory Partnership (Municipality + Nonprofit)
- Application range \$10 – 20 million (no matching funds required)
- Nonprofit subrecipients can be written into grant
- Multiple projects, all completed within 3 years
- Applications evaluated on rolling basis with final deadline of November 21, 2024

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Details



REQUIREMENT 1 – Climate Action Strategies

- Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions
- Energy-Efficient, Healthy, and Resilient Housing and Buildings
- Community Resilience Hubs
- Waste Reduction and Management to Support a Circular Economy
- Workforce Development for Occupations That Reduce GHG Emissions and Air Pollutants

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Details



REQUIREMENT 2 – Pollution Reduction Strategies

- Indoor Air Quality and Community Health Improvements
- Outdoor Air Quality and Community Health Improvements
- Clean Water Infrastructure to Reduce Pollution Exposure and Increase Overall System Resilience

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Details

WACO CITY COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC GOALS



Facilitate Economic
Development



Create a Culture
of Equity and Inclusion



Provide a Safe and
Resilient City



Improve
Infrastructure



Build a High Performing
City Government



Enhance
Quality of Life



Support Sustainability

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Collaborators

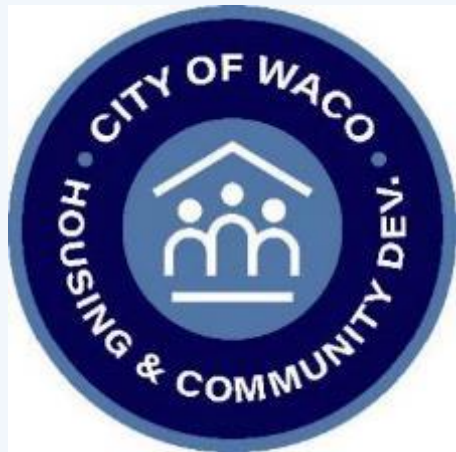
AWARDED \$17,886,260

(Targeted Grant Period: Jan 1, 2025 – Dec 31, 2027)

- Mission Waco Mission World – \$7,055,891 (lead)
- City of Waco – \$2,235,403 (Housing), \$992,606 (Health)
- HARC – \$1,924,225 (program administration)
- World Hunger Relief – \$1,320,803
- Family of Faith Worship Center – \$3,419,191
- Baylor University – \$938,141

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Work Plan



CITY OF WACO HOUSING DEPT

- Continue existing residential lead abatement program benefiting DACs (Disadvantaged Communities).
- Repairs will include the following:
 - Lead base paint abatement
 - Interior & exterior paint
 - New flooring
 - New windows
 - Water line replacement

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Work Plan



**Waco-McLennan
Public Health**

WACO-MCLENNAN PUBLIC HEALTH

- Educate school age children, apartment residents, seniors and others about gardening, cooking and composting. (SCRAP program manager)
- Develop and maintain sustainable community gardens and edible landscapes with drip systems and rainwater collection.
- Provide native trees and education to community members about maintaining trees in an urban area.
- Increase access and use of compostable containers.

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Work Plan



MISSION WACO MISSION WORLD

- Solar and battery storage and resilience programming at Creekside Community Village and the Meyer Center.
- Permeable parking and driving surfaces, bioswales, trees, pocket prairies, constructed wetlands, rain gardens and walking trail at Creekside Community Village.
- Updating HVAC, accessibility, and energy efficiency at Lighthouse and Meyer Center.

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Work Plan



MISSION WACO MISSION WORLD

- EV transit van and solar EV charging.
- Scholarships for TSTC Solar Energy Technology program.
- Community food waste collection, composting and gardening.
- Paid internships and certifications in environmental fields, such as composting.

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Work Plan



WORLD HUNGER RELIEF

- Blackland Prairie restoration & education: supports biodiversity, water filtration, flood control, and soil retention.
- Paid residential climate-smart internships: trains individuals in sustainable agricultural techniques and practices.
- Expanded residential and commercial compost collection services & education utilizing new solar energy system.

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Work Plan



FAMILY OF FAITH WORSHIP CENTER

- Solar and battery storage and resilience programming at Family of Faith resilience hub and food pantry.
- Composting and community gardens, education and outreach about healthy eating in coordination with food distribution program to DACs.
- Flood mitigation and walking paths to provide safe and accessible routes for recreation and exercise on Family of Faith property.

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Work Plan



BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

- Professional development program through workshops for area K-12 teachers, interns, and faith leaders about gardening and composting.
- Classes and student projects across disciplines advancing food justice and climate resilience with community partners.
- Exhibition at the Mayborn Museum to raise awareness about local food justice initiatives and centering the voices of residents.

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Deliverables

GRANT METRICS (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

- Composting: Pounds of food scraps collected, pounds of compost produced, compost sites, households, schools and nonprofits participating in composting, # of restaurants enrolled
- Green Spaces: # of gardens, # of trees planted
- Rainwater infrastructure: # and size of bioswales created, square feet of rain gardens created, and permeable surfaces constructed

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Deliverables

GRANT METRICS (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

- Green Energy: Estimated energy savings (kWh), GHG emissions reductions, amount of solar and battery storage installed
- Community engagement: # of homes receiving assistance, # of people sheltered and fed, # of trainings, events and attendees
- Training: # of scholarships awarded, # of graduated interns who would like to pursue an environmental occupation

THANK YOU.

Please contact ericc@wacotx.gov for any questions