



SUSTAINABILITY STARS PROGRAM APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Program Summary: The West Houston Association (WHA) will recognize qualified applicants for the following sustainability efforts in land development and infrastructure in Greater West Houston:

- (a) Investigation (into listed or new sustainability practices)
- (b) Investment (in listed or new practices)
- (c) Integration (of listed or new practices) into construction
- (d) Inspiration (listed awards)
- (e) Innovation (new awards or new practices)

The major goal of the WHA Sustainability Stars Program is gather insights into sustainable infrastructure so that WHA’s members have reliable information on the value provided by sustainable infrastructure and development practices and to recognize the early adopters of such practices. Thus, the Committee will award individuals for simply exploring or implementing sustainable infrastructure plans. Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to apply in pre-design and to continue updating their applications.

A development project/team can receive multiple awards (e.g., Investigation + Investment = 2 Stars), up to 5 Stars. *WHA is not attempting to create new practices, just recognizing the practices and programs established by others.*

SUSTAINABILITY “STAR” TYPES	INVESTIGATION STAR	INVESTMENT STAR	INTEGRATION STAR	INSPIRATION STAR	INNOVATION STAR
PROJECT PHASE	PRE-DESIGN	DESIGN	CONSTRUCTION	3rd PARTY AWARD	UNLISTED PROGRAM/ELEMENT
SUSTAINABILITY STAR RECOGNITION DESCRIPTION	<i>Recognizes project sponsors who study or evaluate the use of sustainability elements in their project prior to any project implementation activities.</i>	<i>Recognizes project sponsors who include sustainability elements in the design of their project.</i>	<i>Recognizes project sponsors who include sustainability elements in a constructed project.</i>	<i>Recognizes project sponsors who receive qualifying third-party recognition for sustainability elements in a project.</i>	<i>Recognizes project sponsors who include some sustainability program or element in their project that is not otherwise identified in this matrix.</i>
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: <i>To be considered for recognition, applicants must submit the application form (and the required supporting materials) associated with the desired recognition type.</i>	Provide a narrative summary of the results of an objective, technical, and comparative evaluation criteria for qualifying sustainability elements in the project. Include a description of the alternatives considered and the criteria for selection of sustainability elements.	Provide a narrative summary of the sustainability elements included in the project design, their estimated costs, and their benefits. Include a scale, schematic depiction of the sustainability elements.	Provide a narrative summary of the sustainability elements finally constructed, their approximate costs, and their benefits. Include a presentation with photographs and operational characteristics.	Provide a narrative summary, proof of award, and an electronic copy of the application. Please describe the review process and the applicant’s satisfaction with the award and process.	Provide a narrative sustainability element, or larger traditional infrastructure project, that is new to the Houston area, refined in a positive manner, or is an example of otherwise novel development of a sustainability. Include analysis of the sustainability benefits.



SUSTAINABILITY STARS PROGRAM APPLICATION

- (1) Project Name Information:
 - a. Name of Project:
 - b. Project Location:
 - c. Name of Person Submitting the Application:
 - d. Firm Name for Project Owner:
 - e. Firm Name for Project Engineer:
 - f. Firm Name for Project Law Firm:
 - g. Name of Other Consultant information

- (2) Project Status (Pick one)
 - a. Pre-Design & Design (Investigation)
 - b. Post-Design (Investment)
 - c. Post-Construction (Integration)
 - d. Received Award (Inspiration)

- (3) Which type(s) of recognition are you applying for (Pick all that apply):
 - a. Investigation Star
 - b. Investment Star
 - c. Integration Star
 - d. Inspiration Star
 - e. Innovation Star

- (4) Project Type (Pick all that apply);
 - a. Residential (Single Family, Multifamily)
 - b. Commercial (Retail, Office)
 - c. Industrial (Light, Heavy)
 - d. Institutional (Educational, Government Office, Public Safety)
 - e. Infrastructure (Street/Bridge, Wet Utility, Storm/Drainage)

- (5) Which sustainability programs did you consider and why were the noted sustainability issues or practices considered and/or incorporated into your project?
(Please see WHA Sustainability Program Recognized Practices List below; denote which sustainability programs used with asterisk*; highlight any program not listed.)

- (6) Procurement Type (Pick one)
 - a. Traditional Design-Bid-Build
 - b. Design-Build
 - c. Construction Manager
 - d. Other: _____



- (7) Local Permitting Entities:
- County:
 - City:
 - Other:
- (8) Project Narrative(s) (See Matrix for Requirements; provide one narrative or presentation for each type of recognition sought; please consider the use and consideration of the project’s “triple bottom-line” – the degree to which the project addressed social, economic, and environmental outcomes rather than just economic.):
- (9) Attachments (See Matrix for Requirements; e.g. Analysis Criteria, Schematic, etc.; provide attachments for each type of recognition sought)
- (10) Please select a date to present your project to the Sustainable Infrastructure (Review) Committee:
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, June 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, September 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, July 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, October 13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, August 11 | |

SUSTAINABILITY STARS PROGRAM RECOGNIZED PRACTICES LIST:

Vertical Development

- U.S. Green Building Council / Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ([LEED®](#))
- International Code Council / International Green Construction Code ([ICC](#))
- International Code Council – ASTM / National Green Building Standard (ICC-700-2012)([Link](#))
- Green Business Certification Inc. ([Link](#)) / Sustainable Sites Initiative® ([Link](#))
- International Living Future Institute / Net Zero Energy Building Certification (NZEB)® ([Link](#))
- ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 189.1 Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential
- City of Houston / Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE®) Project

Horizontal Development

- Harris County Low Impact Development & Green Design Criteria for Storm Water Management ([Link](#))
- Greenroads® Rating System ([Link](#))
- Federal Highway Administration / Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool (INVEST®) ([Link](#))
- Energy Star Recognition
- Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure’s ENVISION™ Rating System ([Link](#))