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NEWS RELEASE

06/17/2024

## City of El Paso Selected to Participate in 2024 LEED for Cities Local Government Leadership Program

**EL PASO, Texas**—The City of El Paso is one of 12 cities selected by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), creators of the LEED green building rating system, to participate in a national cohort supported by the LEED for Cities Local Government Leadership Program.

"We are honored to be given the opportunity to be part of the LEED for Cities Local Government Leadership Program. This opportunity underscores our commitment to sustainability, resilience, and social equity," said Deputy City Manager Dionne Mack. "By leveraging the LEED for Cities rating system, El Paso will be able to track our progress, implement effective climate actions, and ensure a healthier, more equitable future for all our residents. We look forward to collaborating with other forward-thinking cities in this cohort to drive meaningful change."

LEED for Cities is a key component of regional climate action plans. Program participants evaluate access to green spaces, public health indicators, climate action and resilience, and environmental justice.

The cities participating in this year's cohort represent diverse communities across the country, each facing unique challenges and utilizing tools like LEED to meet the needs of their residents. The Program also includes regional leadership summits intended to deepen engagement with local governments on a range of green building and sustainable development topics.

"Local governments are leading the way in finding solutions to address the climate crisis, and LEED for Cities helps local leaders accelerate progress that improves the health of people and our planet," said Peter Templeton, president and CEO, U.S. Green Building Council. "The 12 local governments selected to participate in this year's cohort are committed to accountability and will use LEED as a tool to ensure they are on a path of continuous improvement."

The 2024 cohort of cities include: Carrollton, Texas; Coral Springs, Florida; El Paso, Texas; Gainesville, Florida; Gary, Indiana; Jacksonville, Florida; La Crosse, Wisconsin; New Orleans, Louisiana; Overland Park, Kansas; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and St. Petersburg, Florida.

The program provides peer-to-peer networking opportunities, technical assistance, and access to educational resources, covering fees for USGBC membership, registration, and certification reviews for participating governments.

## ABOUT THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. For more information, visit <u>usqbc.org</u>.

For more information visit, www.elpasotexas.gov under the Community and Human Development tab.

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