

Toyota Takes the LEED in Texas

September 22, 2017



Plano, Texas (Sept. 22, 2017) – Everything is bigger in Texas. Everything, that is, except Toyota’s environmental footprint.

Toyota Motor North America’s (TMNA) headquarters campus in Plano, Texas has officially achieved LEED Platinum from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Jonathan Kraatz, executive director, USGBC Texas Chapter, presented the prized Platinum plaque to Jim Lentz, TMNA president and chief executive officer, today at the new campus. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the most widely used green building rating system in the world. Toyota’s new campus is the largest commercial LEED Platinum project in the state of Texas, to date.

“At Toyota, we have a longstanding commitment to sustainability and preserving our natural resources,” said Lentz. “With the installation of greenspaces, thousands of solar panels, a massive rain water capture system, and natural light wells, we have designed our new headquarters to reflect the local habitat and enhance its biodiversity. Recognition as a LEED Platinum facility is a testament of our efforts to become a model for energy efficiency and sustainability, and speaks to our challenge to ourselves to create a net positive impact on the planet by 2050.”

“USGBC is proud to award LEED Platinum to Toyota, for their thoughtfulness in their campus energy planning

and space design as well as the overall net positive impact on the community and environment,” said Kraatz. “Our mission at USGBC has challenged organizations to move faster and reach further than ever before, and Toyota’s new Texas campus is a great example of what can be accomplished with the right leadership.”

The state-of-the-art, 100-acre campus boasts a Platinum-sized list of sustainability aspects, from renewable energy to drought resistant landscaping:

Renewable Energy

- Largest onsite corporate solar installation among non-utility companies in Texas
- 8.79-Megawatt solar power system, designed and installed by SunPower Corp.
- Produces up to 33 percent of daily electric needs for headquarters campus
- Reduces annual carbon dioxide emissions by 7,198 metric tons
- Creates enough energy to power 1,200 average US homes for a year
- Installation of high efficiency lighting and building envelopes to reduce energy usage on campus
- Specialized rooftop design teeming with plant life to manage rainwater, reduce heat and further insulate the buildings
- Flexible energy contract to preserve and resell excess power generation back to the grid
- Grid energy offset by Texas wind farm renewable energy credits

Repurposed Rainwater

- State-of-the-art rainwater capture system will provide up to three months of water supply for irrigation use
- Cistern water storage with a capacity to hold 400,000 gallons of harvested rain water
- Estimated to save more than 11 million gallons of potable (drinking) water annually
- Excess drain water will be collected and repurposed for sanitary facility use

Recycling

- More than 99 percent of the construction waste was recycled
- Construction waste was sorted offsite at North Texas’ first Construction and Demolition waste processing facility

Sustainable Landscaping

- Exterior landscaping features drought-tolerant, North Texas indigenous plants like savannah, oaklands and wildflower meadows
- Campus landscape will provide a natural habitat for endangered pollinators and monarch butterflies
- Approximately 1,300 trees planted onsite by Toyota
- More than 80 mature trees saved or relocated onsite, including a 100-year-old oak tree
- Landscaping will be managed without expensive mowing, fertilizers, chemicals or artificial irrigation
- Historic wetlands on the northeast corner of the campus were preserved to protect its natural state

Professionals who led this project include a host of Dallas-based firms: KDC Real Estate Development & Investments to develop and build the campus, architect Corgan Associates to design the campus, and Austin Commercial to manage the construction.

In late 2015, Toyota Motor Corporation announced the 2050 Toyota Environmental Challenge, a set of ambitious environmental goals to reach beyond net zero, and create a net positive impact on the planet. To learn more, please visit <http://www.toyota-global.com/sustainability/environment/challenge2050/>.