



# Smart and Healthy Infrastructure

Invest in technology, sustainability, and wellness initiatives to create a technologically sophisticated, environmentally friendly, and healthy Downtown.

## THE OPPORTUNITY

Wellness, health, and sustainability are becoming important priorities in new development, corporate culture, and people's everyday life. The City's KC Green initiative incorporates sustainability into a broader triple bottom line approach that simultaneously promotes social equity, economic vitality, and environmental quality. Downtown is an excellent laboratory to pilot new approaches to sustainability and wellness. Prospective residents and companies will be looking for locations that demonstrate these values when making location decisions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### F1 DEVELOP A "HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE DOWNTOWN" INITIATIVE.

- F1a** Help neighborhood groups to establish community gardens and urban agriculture projects on vacant land Downtown.
- F1b.** Encourage the development of a pilot program for recycling and composting for multifamily housing.
- F1c** Encourage local fitness clubs and yoga studios to offer outdoor classes in parks and plazas.
- F1d** Develop running trails Downtown and exercise stations that provide fitness options in local parks.
- F1e** Make Downtown fitness opportunities a new section on the Downtown Council website.

Strategic implementation of smart infrastructure installation and environmentally-sound design







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## RECOMMENDATIONS

**F1f** Encourage fitness competitions like marathons and bike races to start and finish Downtown.

**F1g** Work with the UniversityHealth Wellness Connections program to develop Downtown employee health and wellness initiatives such as walking trails, yoga classes, or other programming.

**F2 BUILD GREEN STORMWATER PRACTICES INTO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GREATER DOWNTOWN AREA PLAN.**

**F2a** Incorporate green stormwater management into the Complete Streets program and all sidewalk, utility, and roadway reconstruction Downtown.

**F2b** Explore recommendations from the Beyond the Loop PEL study for the North Loop such as creating a new smart stormwater system with integrated technology that also serves as an attractive amenity and solves existing problems in the Downtown watershed.

**F3 PROVIDE DIGITAL ACCESS THROUGHOUT DOWNTOWN.**

**F3a** Encourage the City to adopt design guidelines for small-cell implementation Downtown.

**F3b** Require equity criteria for 5G implementation to ensure all Downtown neighborhoods have equal access to broadband resources.

**F3c** Improve digital access and affordability for households and small businesses throughout Downtown neighborhoods as described in the *KC Connectivity Report*.

**F3d** Explore digital upgrades to low-income Downtown neighborhoods as part of community benefit packages for new development.

**F4 PROMOTE THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT OF PRESERVING HISTORIC BUILDINGS.**

**F4a** Continue to encourage the reuse of historic buildings as affordable housing and creative office space.

**F4b** Promote Downtown historic buildings by celebrating successful historic reuse and rehabilitation projects.

**F4c** Encourage signs and plaques identifying historic sites and buildings Downtown.

**F4d** Educate the community on the environmental benefits of preservation including reducing resource and material consumption; reducing waste in landfills, and using less energy by reusing buildings instead of demolition and new construction.