GREEN CENTERPIECE MASTER STRATEGY

When one tugs at a single thing in nature, she finds it is attached to the rest of the world

-John Muir

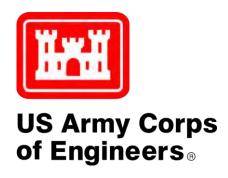


GREEN CENTERPIECE MASTER STRATEGY PARTNERS









Initial Consultant



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What is the Green Centerpiece?

The City of Lewisville was founded in 1925 and has grown to become one of the larger cities in an important urban region. In 2013, the Lewisville City Council began a process to create a new vision and plan for the community. The result, *Lewisville 2025*, was adopted unanimously by City Council in 2014. It describes Lewisville's vision for the community it hopes to be by the time of its 100th birthday in 2025. As a strategic plan, *Lewisville 2025* focuses on a small number of ideas that will make the most difference in shaping this future community. These are the nine Big Moves detailed in *Lewisville 2025*.

The first Big Move is the Green Centerpiece. Focusing on this natural area as a central part of Lewisville's identity is a notable shift from viewing these areas as simply exclusions from the city's urban fabric. With so many growing communities in the area, the Green Centerpiece offers Lewisville the opportunity to set itself apart.

When the *Lewisville 2025* was updated in 2021, the new version again retained the Green Centerpiece as the first Big Move. The Green Centerpiece is shown in Exhibit 1. This update builds on the successes achieved since the original vision plan was adopted; the plan was approved unanimously by the City Council on April 19, 2021.

The City is currently celebrating its 100th birthday and working on the development of Lewisville 2035. The lessons learned through the implementation of *Lewisville 2025* and this Green Centerpiece Master Strategy will influence the community's vision of the future and inform the next steps necessary to achieve it.

Exhibit 1: Green Centerpiece



This Green Centerpiece continues be a successful, long-standing partnership. The Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA) includes 2,704 acres of land immediately below the Lewisville Lake dam. Since the 1990's, an agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), the University of North Texas (UNT), the Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension and the Lewisville Independent School District (LISD) has provided educational programs, outdoor activities, environmental management and restoration in this area. The vision for LLELA is to heal the land and restore the bond between people and nature, ensuring the preservation of our natural heritage for the future. This will be achieved through the mission to preserve and restore native Texas ecosystems and biodiversity while providing environmental education, research and recreation.

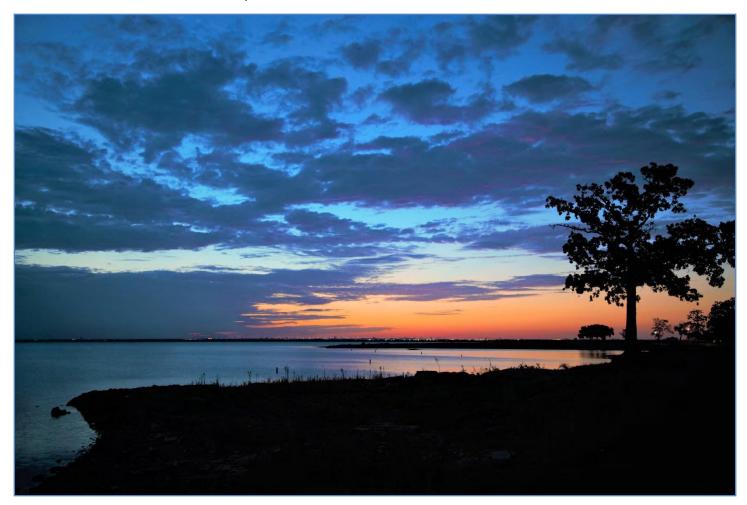
The programs at LLELA and at the adjacent Lewisville Independent School District Outdoor Learning Area (LISDOLA) have provided natural learning experiences to thousands of school children and other visitors. LLELA is essential to the vision of the Green Centerpiece for Lewisville. The LLELA partnership agreement was modified in 2015 to remove the Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension. Also in 2015, the responsibility for LLELA's K-12 educational and recreational programs shifted from UNT to the City. The City of Lewisville was formally added to the LLELA lease in 2016. With these changes, the continuing success of LLELA can be leveraged to achieve the vision of a Green Centerpiece for the entire Lewisville community.

Where is the Green Centerpiece?

Lewisville and this Green Centerpiece are located in the center part of the North Texas region (also known as the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex - DFW). This metropolitan area was home to 7.87 million people in 2021 and is the fourth-largest region in the United States. The region is one of the fastest growing in the nation, and is projected to have 11.2 million residents by 2045, approximately the same amount of people as New York City. This rapid growth makes North Texas a very attractive region to people and businesses; it also creates pressure on the region's communities and natural environment. The City of Lewisville is 46.96 square miles in size and had 127,008 residents in 2021. As Exhibit 2 shows, Lewisville is located on the southern edge of Lewisville Lake.



As the name suggests, the Green Centerpiece is centrally located within the City, as well as DFW. Exhibit 3 shows the area of the Green Centerpiece. The Central Area of the Green Centerpiece includes the land owned by the Corps of Engineers and operated by the LLELA partnership. The Expanded Area of the Green Centerpiece includes floodplain areas below the Lewisville Lake dam and along the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. Together, the Central and Expanded Areas form a Green Centerpiece of 6,726 acres. The Green Centerpiece includes 24.6% of the land within the current city limits of Lewisville – almost one-quarter of the community's area! As *Lewisville 2025* states, "the vision for the Green Centerpiece is to promote and protect the area as a public amenity." The first Action Priority for accomplishing this Big Move is to update the Green Centerpiece Master Strategy to focus on enhancing its role for Lewisville residents, businesses, schools and the community."

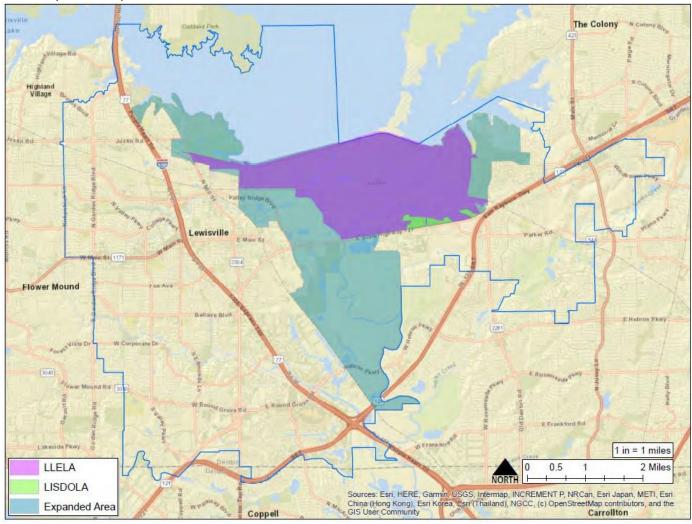


Areas Addressed by the Green Centerpiece Master Strategy

The Green Centerpiece includes a substantial part of the City of Lewisville, as shown in Exhibit 1. This area is the focus of the first Big Move in the Lewisville 2025 vision plan (adopted in 2014 and updated in 2021). Within the Green Centerpiece are several important natural areas and facilities. The Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA) is owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and includes areas for environmental management, restoration and recreation. This area is leased to the "Operating Partners" – the University of North Texas (UNT), the City of Lewisville and the Lewisville Independent School District. Other important places within the Green Centerpiece include the Lewisville Independent School District Outdoor Learning Area (LISDOLA), Lake Park, a DCTA transit station, Railroad Park and two Trinity River kayak launches. These places and facilities are shown in Exhibit 3. The current LLELA Restoration Plan (completed in 2021) defines twenty management areas within LLELA, each with a particular set of goals and action Page 6

items for the next five years. These management areas are shown in Exhibit 4.

Exhibit 3: Key Green Centerpiece Places and Facilities





The Green Centerpiece Partnership

Creation of the Green Centerpiece described in this Master Strategy is not the work of any one individual or organization. It will be most successful if it is achieved through the work of a partnership that brings a range of resources and expertise to the effort. The Operating Partners that have worked together to develop this Master Strategy expect to continue this partnership for its implementation. These organizations are described briefly below.

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) constructed the dam that created Lewisville Lake. It owns the land where the lake is located and land surrounding the lake. Its priorities are to manage the lake itself to provide water storage, flood protection, natural habitat and recreational opportunities. It manages the surrounding lands (those included in the LLELA lease) to benefit fish and wildlife and to retain the habitat on which these species depend.

City of Lewisville

The City of Lewisville (City) is a general-purpose government with a Council-Manager structure. City policy direction is established by its City Council. The City administration carries out that policy by providing a range of facilities and programs to its residents, property owners and businesses. Through its Parks and Recreation Department, the City manages an extensive parks and recreation system that now includes the educational and recreational programs at LLELA. The City's planning and economic development responsibilities enable it to encourage desirable private development and to discourage uses that are incompatible with this vision. The City's public information resources play a key role in communication and marketing of the Green Centerpiece.

University of North Texas

The University of North Texas (UNT) is a public university based in Denton, Texas. At UNT, the Advanced Environmental Research Institute (AERI) conducts research in the Green Centerpiece area and on issues that are important to management and restoration of environmental resources. Its educational programs bring students to the Green Centerpiece as part of their university coursework and applied field training for the Department of Biological Sciences (College of Science) Ecology for Environmental Science BS program. In 2025, the Ecology BS program at UNT had 250 of students who benefit from opportunities at LLELA. In addition, many UNT master's and doctorate students have utilized LLELA as an area to conduct ecological research. LLELA is often considered a 'baseline' or 'reference' area for studies within north central Texas as the quality is superior to the surrounding urban matrix.

Lewisville Independent School District

The Lewisville Independent School District (LISD) serves over 46,700 students in thirteen communities including Lewisville. Its programs provide students from kindergarten through high school with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed throughout their lives. LISD has included environmental education in its programs for many years, including those offered in partnership with LLELA and those provided by LISD's own Lewisville Independent School District Outdoor Learning Area (LISDOLA), an 84-acre property also located within the Green Centerpiece.

Friends of LLELA

The Friends of LLELA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that supports LLELA's mission and raises awareness of LLELA as an asset to the community and surrounding areas through fundraising, education and service events. Friends of LLELA seeks to connect, serve and advocate.

Other Stakeholders

Other organizations also play a role in the future of the Green Centerpiece. Their ideas and support are important to the completion of this Master Strategy, and their involvement will be vital to its implementation. These stakeholders include organizations, agencies and individuals such as:

- Lewisville homeowners and residents, particularly those in neighborhoods in or near the Green Centerpiece
- · Recreational users with interests such as birding, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, hunting, fishing, and others
- Past and current funders of LLELA
- Other major property owners in or near the Green Centerpiece
- The operators of landfills in the Expanded Area (DFW Landfill, the Lewisville Landfill, Waste Management, Inc.)
- Utilities with easements in the Green Centerpiece area
- Businesses in the SH 121 Business District
- Upper Trinity Regional Water District
- Garland Power and Light, Oncor and Texas New Mexico Power, and other utility operators/purveyors
- Kansas City Southern Railroad
- Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility (LAERF)
- Master naturalist and master gardener groups
- Keep Lewisville Beautiful
- Huffines property holdings
- Denton County Transportation Authority
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas A&M Agri-Life Center
- Scouting America
- Clear Texas Lakes
- Lewisville Park Alliance

The Master Strategy Process

Initial Green Centerpiece Master Strategy

After adoption of *Lewisville 2025*, the City convened a group of Operating Partners in 2014 to begin discussion of a Green Centerpiece Master Strategy. Key aspects of this process included:

- Agreement on the appropriate roles and responsibilities for each Operating Partner, including a shift of responsibilities for LLELA's K-12 environmental education programs and operations from UNT to the City of Lewisville.
- Collection of information and data about current programs and activities, and the existing physical conditions in the area.
- Dialogue among partners to reach agreement on the issues and opportunities for the Green Centerpiece and on the vision and policy direction to be reflected in the Master Strategy.

The Master Strategy development process began with an initial Operating Partners meeting in January 2015. Changes to the LLELA operations became a focus for discussion and resolution that year. In addition, the Operating Partners shared information about each organization's policies and programs in order to create a shared framework for the Green Centerpiece. They also analyzed the partnership's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Based on this analysis and discussion, the Operating Partners began drafting the Master Strategy in late 2015. This draft Master Strategy, with specific action steps, was refined through continuing discussion with the Operating Partners during early 2016. The initial Green Centerpiece Master Strategy was completed in July 2016.

Master Strategy Implementation and Update

After creation of the initial Green Centerpiece Master Strategy (GCMS), the Operating Partners continued existing programs and created new ones to implement the strategy.

A Nature Center design charrette was held in 2017 and all partners agreed on the components of a desired Nature Center and a preferred location within LLELA. The Lewisville City Council made a commitment to fund 100% of the Nature Center capital costs if the other partners approved use agreements for the center. However, changes in the investments and priorities of the other partners meant that they were not able to make these agreements. LISD voters approved a Bond program in 2017 which did not include capital funds for a Nature Center; it did include funds to substantially improve the facilities at LISDOLA allowing for improved weather shelters, expansion of district programs, and future opportunities to collaborate with the Nature Center and all partners. Changes in UNT's financial and organization structures meant that the university was also not able to enter into a use agreement.

Other action items were accomplished in the initial years after the Master Strategy was approved. To reflect these accomplishments and changes in the Nature Center, the Operating Partners completed an update of this Master Strategy in 2017. After this update, the Operating Partners continued to work together on programs to implement the Master Strategy from 2018 through 2021. They also met

periodically each year to share information on programs and investments. Throughout these years, the Lewisville City Council, the LISD School Board and UNT leadership received briefing on the plan and its implementation, and took actions to support the partnership.

The Operating Partners began updating the Master Strategy in 2021, in order to reflect actions accomplished, areas of focus for the partner organizations, and the experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic during 2020 and 2021. A discussion begun at the Operating Partners' meeting in September of 2021 led to agreement on an updated Vision Statement and a newly-structured set of Guiding Principles. The Partners continued work to revise the Action Items during early 2022. This document reflects these updates adopted by all Partners and approved by the USACE in the Summer of 2022. The formal approval documents for the three partners are found in the Appendix to this report.

After the 2022 updates were adopted, the operational teams of the Partners began meeting on a regular basis to increase collaboration, address issues that impeded progress and identify new opportunities. In 2023, the City hired a PROS Consulting to update the original business plan developed for the nature center. This was informed by a design charrette held with partners in June 2023 and led to the consideration of an alternate site for the facility on the perimeter of LLELA along Kealy Street to increase visibility and access to the center, reduce the cost of utility runs and reduce the environmental impact of the constructions and operations of the facility. This site, previously used by the USACE for staging the dam modification project, is located immediately adjacent to LLELA and under the purview of separate lease with the City for future construction of a utility plant. The Business Plan was finalized in 2024 and spurred the modification of the City Lease to use this area for the future Nature Center and recreation access rather than the utility plant.

This significant change is keystone element of the Strategy, led the Operating Partners and various stakeholders to convene in the summer of 2025 to assess progress made since 2022, discuss and recognize changes in the community and political landscapes, and develop/modify action items to better position the partnership to achieve its ultimate vision for the Green Centerpiece. Significant changes in leadership for the City, LISD and UNT teams brought new perspectives that reinvigorated each entity's commitment to work together and inform updates to the Strategy.

Issues and Opportunities

The Operating Partners are united in the belief that the Green Centerpiece area holds many opportunities to enhance the diverse Lewisville community and enrich the lives of the people who live and work here. The Green Centerpiece has the potential to be an important laboratory for learning and practicing good stewardship of natural and environmental resources in the midst of a major urban area. It can also become an attraction for sustainable economic growth by creating unique locations and incentives Page 12



for companies whose business models or employees emphasize environmental quality and sustainability.

This Green Centerpiece Master Strategy builds upon the past successes of LLELA and the Operating Partners. It serves as the game plan for coordinated action, by the Operating Partners and others, to fully achieve the Green Centerpiece's potential.

The Operating Partners' discussions about the vision for this important area repeatedly returned to the importance of seven key issues. This Master Strategy addresses these issues and provides direction to achieve the full potential of the Green Centerpiece.

- 1. The foundation of the Green Centerpiece is the unique natural asset that exists within this area. The plans and projects to carry out the Green Centerpiece vision must protect or enhance the natural ecosystems that are at its heart.
- The multiple uses and activities envisioned for the Green Centerpiece must be compatible with one another. Decisions are needed about the appropriate locations for specific activities, so compatible uses can be located together and uses that might compete or conflict with one another are located to minimize conflicts.
- 3. A collaborative institutional structure must provide long-term coordination, management and oversight of the Green Centerpiece.
- 4. Financial resources must be secured so the operation of this institutional structure and the various Green Centerpiece programs and activities can continue sustainably over time.
- 5. Capital investments in a range of facilities can play a vital role in attracting students, visitors, research and support for the Green Centerpiece. Critical decisions must be made about what additional buildings, trails and other facilities are needed to achieve the objectives of this Master Strategy.
- People and businesses in Lewisville must become much more aware of the resources offered by the Green Centerpiece, so they will make it a part of their everyday lives and their experience of Lewisville.
- 7. The larger North Texas region can also benefit from the Green Centerpiece. Communications and marketing are needed to increase awareness of this area and to attract new businesses, future residents and visitors from other states and nations.

Updated Vision Statement

A Vision Statement describes the future that is desired by a community or organization. It is an aspirational statement, not describing the current situation but instead creating an image of the future participants believe is most desirable. Specific principles, policies, decisions and action steps should move the community or organization toward the desired future described in the Vision Statement.

The Green Centerpiece is a central feature of Lewisville's identity, an innovative leader of Texas native habitat and open space management, and a destination for recreation, education, research, and restoration for Lewisville, the North Texas region, and the world.

Updated Guiding Principles

The Operating Partners agree to use a shared set of Guiding Principles as the basis for their decisions and actions affecting this Green Centerpiece area. Guiding Principles provide direction for decision-makers so their individual choices and investments help to realize the community's desired future as expressed in the Vision Statement. Since this Green Centerpiece Master Strategy is a shared policy document, its acceptance by the leadership of each Operating Partner will mean that each organization agrees to make its own decisions in a way that helps achieve this vision.

The Green Centerpiece Guiding Principles are listed below. Each principle is phrased as a statement.

The Structure of the Green Centerpiece Guiding Principles

Green Centerpiece

Leaves: specific action items that achieve the Green Centerpiece vision for the future

Branches: particular places within the physical Green Centerpiece, the larger Lewisville community and the virtual world

Trunk: the Master Strategy that is the Partners' shared approach to the people and nature of the Green Centerpiece

Roots: the Partners of the Green Centerpiece initiative



The roots of the Green Centerpiece are its partner organizations. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Lewisville, the Lewisville Independent School District and the University of North Texas will contribute expertise and resources to grow and expand the reach of the Green Centerpiece.

Like the trunk of a tree, overall principles will guide the decisions, investments and activities related to particular aspects of the Green Centerpiece.

Branching from this trunk, topical principles explain the approach to the most important aspects of the Green Centerpiece.

Leaves on each branch are the action items and programs that partners will undertake to achieve this vision for the Green Centerpiece and the people who connect with it. These actions include initiatives Page 14

that bring people to specific places within the Green Centerpiece; they also include initiatives that connect people virtually or in other ways.

Overall Guiding Principles

- We are committed to our goal of providing access and opportunities to all people, as we foster healthy and dynamic ecosystems and cultivate a meaningful connection between our community and nearby-nature.
 - a. We strive to give every individual a chance to participate and thrive regardless of their abilities, background, or experience.
 - b. We aim to reflect our community and celebrate our shared experiences, perspectives, and culture.
 - c. It is our intention to create a safe and welcoming environment for those that we serve.
 - d. We are guided by these principles while building the next diverse generation of environmental stewards through environmental education, outdoor recreation, outreach and volunteer engagement.
- Decisions on uses, activities, infrastructure and other investments throughout the Green
 Centerpiece will be made so they strengthen its environmental assets and enhance connections
 to people and communities.
- 3. Uses, facilities and activities within the Green Centerpiece will be structured so their impacts do not exceed the carrying capacity of the Green Centerpiece's natural systems or threaten the vitality of its ecology.
- 4. Lewisville's Green Centerpiece initiatives will serve as the basis for collaborations with other North Texas communities with similar initiatives and as the foundation of Lewisville's regional leadership.
- 5. Connection to and within Lewisville's Green Centerpiece will be easily accessible, convenient, clearly-marked and inviting for people using various modes of transportation.
- 6. On-going communications and specific events will provide Lewisville residents with opportunities for everyday interaction with the Green Centerpiece and Lewisville's natural setting, helping them develop a sense of ownership of these natural resources. They also will introduce Lewisville to regional, national and international visitors.

Topical Guiding Principles

- 7. **Environmental Management**. Lewisville Lake, the Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA) and other places within the Green Centerpiece provide important habitat for plants, fish, birds and other wildlife. The quality of this habitat is maintained or enhanced over time through the actions of the partners:
 - a. Lewisville Lake is managed by the U.S. Army Corps Engineers to provide flood protection, water storage, recreational and natural habitat protection opportunities.
 - b. The LLELA area is managed to benefit fish and wildlife and to retain the habitat on which

these species depend.

- Other natural areas, creeks and corridors are managed by other partners.
- 8. **Restoration**. Restoration of natural areas will be carried out according to the current LLELA Restoration Plan, enhancing native Texas ecosystems and the North Texas metropolitan area because it:
 - Recreates the ecology and experience of the area's native prairies.
 - Restores forested and emergent wetland areas along streams and lake edges.
 - c. Redesigns the Trinity River floodway to increase resilience and reduce community impact from droughts, floods and other extreme weather events.
- 9. **Environmental Research**. Future research studies will extend and build upon past research successes. Research in the Central Area, conducted by UNT's Advanced Environmental Research Institute (AERI) will:
 - Advance our basic understanding of the complexities of the natural world and develop solutions for environmental problems.
 - b. Cultivate active learning experiences steeped in ecological and environmental science.
 - Train the next generation of environmental professionals capable of addressing and solving local, regional, national and international problems.





- d. Provide special focus on key species and on the issues of natural areas near growing metropolitan areas.
- 10. **Environmental Education**. The Green Centerpiece will offer educational opportunities to people of all ages. Education and training programs will be carried out by a collaboration between the City of Lewisville, the University of North Texas, and the Lewisville Independent School District. These programs will give people opportunities to:
 - a. Interact with native Texas ecosystems and reconnect with the natural heritage of Lewisville and North Texas.
 - b. Experience a flexible, safe, nurturing environment.
 - c. Learn about this ecosystem in a way that is appropriate to each learner's interests and skills, whether that learner is a child, local resident, ecotourist or other visitor.
 - d. Improve physical, mental and emotional health through recreation experiences in an urban wilderness.
 - e. Understand and value natural systems so they will choose to preserve and improve them.
 - f. Feel empowered to address global environmental issues as a result of local action that positively impacts the local environment.



- g. Visit facilities and use a range of tools and techniques to experience and learn about the natural world, from "hands-on" projects to technology that enables global collaboration.
- h. Contribute to "citizen science" initiatives that expand learning about local and global ecosystems. Interact with native Texas ecosystems and reconnect with the natural heritage of Lewisville and North Texas.
- 11. **Enhanced Quality of Life**. Lewisville's identity as a community will be shaped by the Green Centerpiece:
 - a. The Green Centerpiece will contribute to Lewisville's reputation as a community with a high quality of life that remains desirable over time.
 - b. Lewisville's branding will incorporate this natural focus.
 - c. Communications and marketing initiatives will use the Green Centerpiece, its activities and facilities as a central focal point for bringing new residents, businesses, researchers and visitors to Lewisville.

- 12. **Land Use and Infrastructure Investment**. Public and private investments in and around the Green Centerpiece will enjoy distinctive assets that set them apart from investments in other parts of Lewisville and the North Texas region:
 - a. Land uses and development patterns will be compatible with the area's ecosystems and will use the area's assets as the basis for distinctive and lasting character.
 - Development in the Green Centerpiece will demonstrate the best current practices for water conservation, 'grey water' reuse, stream and pond water management and groundwater recharge.
 - c. Design standards will be established for private uses in and around the Green Centerpiece. They will incorporate current green building and landscaping practices, benefit from natural amenities, reduce impacts on environmental resources, and provide linkages between development and

natural areas.

- d. Public infrastructure (such as roads, trails, water and sewer systems) will be designed, constructed and operated according to current best practices for green infrastructure.
- e. The design of the SH 121 transportation improvements in the Green Centerpiece will demonstrate Lewisville's use of green design and inform people using this thoroughfare that they are in a special area with unique natural features.
- f. Public art at key Green Centerpiece locations and facilities will reflect Lewisville's natural setting, history and aspirations for the future.
- g. Greenbelts or restorative corridors will be incorporated where possible on or adjacent to LISD's campuses and facilities.



- 13. **Economic Development.** In and around the Green Centerpiece, Lewisville residents and businesses will find opportunities for long-lasting jobs and business growth that also support the City's fiscal sustainability:
 - a. Development in and around the Green Centerpiece will play an important role in defining Lewisville's identity. A Northern Gateway Identity Focal Point and other features along IH-35 will communicate to travelers that they are entering a community with a focus on its natural setting and leadership in sustainability.
 - b. Lake Park will be an important Green Centerpiece destination for visitors and Lewisville residents. It will offer water recreation and other activities that benefit from a Green Centerpiece location but require more extensive change to the natural ecosystem than is appropriate in environmental management and restoration areas.

- c. The Green Centerpiece and its surroundings will provide business locations for companies that value a green, natural setting and design. Economic development policies and incentives will support green businesses and sustainable design.
- d. Future use and closure plans for the landfill sites in the area will create environmentally-desirable sites for recreation and compatible business activities.
- 14. **Recreation and Education**. The environmental education offered in the Green Centerpiece will be joined by additional recreational options and connected to the rest of Lewisville in many ways:
 - a. Trails in the Green Centerpiece
 will connect throughout the
 Lewisville community and to the
 rest of the North Texas region.
 Trails will be designed to be
 appropriate to their context and



- to exemplify Lewisville's leadership in green design. Appropriate trails will be included for people walking, biking, canoeing or kayaking. Trails will enable residents and visitors to enjoy quiet experiences with nature, exercise and fitness, as well as the experience of the natural world during daily travel from place to place.
- b. The environmental experiences and education found in the Green Centerpiece will extend to the entire Lewisville parks system and its facilities throughout the community.
- c. The environmental educational collaboration between UNT and LISD will extend to the entire LISD system and will offer scholarships, research projects, certifications, collegelevel courses and other programs that help LISD students pursue careers related to the environment.
- d. Recreational experiences will respect the natural ecosystem and provide additional activity choices (such as dining, lodging, camping, hiking, and boating) for people visiting the Green Centerpiece from other parts of the U.S. and the world.
- e. East Hill Park, Spillway Park, LLELA and other properties will be developed in a manner that enhances the natural landscape and resources of the Green Centerpiece while providing meaningful and engaging outdoor recreation experiences for visitors.

Updated Action Items

The charts below describe the Action Items identified to implement this Master Strategy. These charts provide the initial guidance for all partners involved in implementation. They contain the following pieces of information.

Information on Action Items

Action Item Number and Name

Each Action Item describes a specific step to be taken to achieve the goals of this Master Strategy. Each item is numbered, and has a short name for quick reference.

Action Item Description

The Action Item name is followed by a description that explains more fully what the action plan involves.

Desired Outcome

This is the result that is expected if the Action Item is completed successfully. It should be specific enough that someone can determine whether or not it was actually achieved.

Lead Entity

The entity that will lead completion of this Action Item – the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), City of Lewisville (City), University of North Texas (UNT), Lewisville Independent School District (LISD), property owners or others. In some cases, two or more partners share leadership responsibility.

Timing

Some of these action items should be implemented immediately, while others may take additional time.

- 1. Highest priority should begin in the adoption year –2026 (Fiscal Year 2025-2026).
- 2. Short-Term is years 1 to 3 (FY 2025-2026 through FY 2027-2028).
- 3. Mid-Term is in years 4 to 9 (FY 2028-2029 through FY 2033-2034).
- 4. On-going is an activity that must become a continuing part of Operating Partner practices & operations
- 5. Complete no further action necessary

Collaborating Entities

These are the other partners and organizations that will work with the lead entity to carry out an Action Item.

Cost to Operating Partners

The cost is presented symbolically to indicate the level of new commitment involved.

- \$ reflects an action by one or more Operating Partners that will be carried out using existing program and budget resources.
- \$\$ reflects an action by one or more Operating Partners that is a new program or project, and that will likely require new budget resources.
- \$\$\$ reflects a major new investment by one or more Operating Partners that will likely involve new capital funding.

Budget & Funding Sources

Potential cost estimates and funding sources are noted if they can be identified.

Geographic Focus

If the Action Item involves specific geographic areas within the Green Centerpiece or the North Texas region, these areas are indicated.

Virtual Focus

Any virtual components of the Action Item are explained here.

Other Comments

These include any general comments or notes that are important for the person or organization carrying out the strategy to know.

Green Centerpiece Master Strategy Action Items

Action Item Listing

#	Action Item Title	Lead Partner
1	USACE Lease for LLELA Renewal - Complete	Combined
2	Coordinated Volunteer Management	Combined
3	Coordinated Green Centerpiece Programming	Combined
4	Ongoing Collaborations and Partnerships	Combined
5	Lewisville Lake and LLELA Operations	USACE
6	White-tailed Deer Management	USACE
7	Fisheries Management Project	USACE
8	Prescribed Burn Management	USACE
9	Surveillance	USACE
10	Green Centerpiece Marketing Plan	COL
11	Green Centerpiece Activities and Events	COL
12	Environmentally-Inspired Public Art	COL
13	Residential Native Planting Certification Program - Complete	COL
14	Participant Evaluations	COL
15	Healthy Infrastructure Plan	COL
16	COL Sustainability Plan - Green Centerpiece Master Strategy Component	COL
17	Lake Park Master Plan	COL
18	LLELA Interpretive Plan Implementation	COL
19	Facilities Maintenance Program	COL
20	Green Centerpiece and Extending the Green Maintenance Program	COL
21	Capital Investment in Public Infrastructure within the Green Centerpiece	COL
22	Land Acquisition and Development in the Green Centerpiece and Extended	COL
	Areas	
23	Landfill Redevelopment	COL
24	6 - 12 Connections to Real-World Research	LISD

#	Action Item Title	Lead Partner
25	K – 5 Natural Science Mentorship Program	LISD
26	Student Research Activities Support	UNT
27	Native Plant Nursery	UNT
28	Coursework for LLELA Activities	UNT
29	Restoration Plan Implementation	UNT
30	Plant-a-thon	UNT
31	FOLLELA Agreement	FOLLELA
32	Non-Partner, Non-Profit Collaborations	FOLLELA
33	Outreach and Inclusion Program Support	FOLLELA

Action Items with Combined Leadership

1. USACE Lease for LLELA Renewal	
Action Item Description	Renew USACE Lease of LLELA with three major partners (COL, LISD, UNT)
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville, UNT, LISD
Desired Outcome	Current lease expires in August 2022; request for renewal to be submitted by partners in June 2022.
Timing	Complete
Collaborating Entities	USACE, FOLLELA
Cost to Operating Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Partner operating funds
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	N/A
2025 Status Update	Complete; Lease No. DACW63-1-23-0674 was executed in December 2023 with an expiration date of September 30, 2047

2. Coordinated Volunteer I	Management
Action Item Description	Establish coordinated procedures related to volunteers contributing to the Green Centerpiece and related programs. These procedures should address volunteer application, background check, training, scheduling, time-keeping and certification. Establish a system that streamlines volunteer background checks to be approved and accepted.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville, LISD, UNT, Friends of LLELA
Topic	Administrative
Desired Outcome	A coordinated and streamlined process that benefits everyone. Volunteers are screened and trained appropriately; their time is used effectively; and they receive recognition of their efforts through certification or other means. The partner organizations gain additional capacity and expertise to carry out programs in the Green Centerpiece and beyond.
Timing	1 -Highest Priority
Collaborating Entities	All Partners
Cost to Partners	\$, \$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	City of Lewisville, LISD, UNT, Grants
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece, Lewisville Park System and LISD sites
Virtual Focus	Communicating volunteer opportunities and training online
Other Comments	Volunteers join the Green Centerpiece team for various reasons, but these often include 1) a sense of community and belonging, 2) learning from professionals in natural sciences and 3) a deep connection with LLELA and the natural world. They have ownership in Green Centerpiece mission and contribute to a unique, vibrant, and lasting community which supports the vision and mission. Coordinated management will make it easier for people to volunteer with different organizations within the Green Centerpiece, for example, UNT Faculty and students who are background checked through UNT, or master naturalists who are background checked through Texas AgriLife, could pursue volunteering at LLELA, LISDOLA, with students in LISD and throughout the community. Partners need to determine what common elements need to be part of the volunteer vetting process. Partners explore

2. Coordinated Volunteer Management		
	training offerings or certifications for volunteers that would build skills needed in the field.	
2025 Status Update	On February 12, Green Centerpiece partners convened with Human Resources representatives to review current volunteer requirements across entities and explore shared solutions. That discussion highlighted differences in verification standards and emphasized the need for a coordinated—but not universal—approach. In February, partners also participated in a workshop to map out requirements and identify potential systems to support recruitment, onboarding, and reporting. The City of Lewisville has since confirmed it will launch Get Connected from Galaxy Digital in 2025 as its primary volunteer management platform. This system will allow the City to streamline recruitment, onboarding, and engagement processes. Importantly, it also provides a shared reporting hub for volunteer hours that can help all partners tell a unified story about impact. Moving forward, the goal for all Green Centerpiece partners is to create a coordinated volunteer management procedure that: • Centralizes reporting: Ensure all volunteer hours, regardless of property or program, are compiled in a single reporting system.	
	• Aligns opportunities: Coordinate volunteer offerings across agencies to highlight the full breadth of service opportunities within the Green Centerpiece.	
	• Tracks shared metrics: Collect consistent data on outcomes, participation, and impact to demonstrate the collective value of the partnership.	
	This approach allows each entity to maintain its own approval processes while aligning opportunities, outcomes, and data in one place. The next step will be to build a shared framework for reporting and continue refining verification and liability practices.	

2.6 1: 1.10	
3. Coordinated Green Cent	
	Collaborate to create hands-on/interactive programs that communicate
	a common environmental message, engage participants through
	experiential learning, applied research opportunities, outreach, outdoor
Action Item Description	education, recreation, and connection with nature.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville, LISD, UNT, FOLLELA
	Design new and reimagine existing programs that utilize environmental
	education and outdoor recreation to connect participants with nature
	and foster greater involvement in conservation and restoration efforts.
	Programs will be intentionally structured to reach a broader range of
	residents by offering flexible formats such as mobile outreach, virtual
	sessions, and community-based programming. These efforts may include
	offerings at LLELA, internships for LISD students, citizen science
Desired Outcome	initiatives, and public engagement activities across the community.
	Consideration will be given to reducing barriers to participation,
	including offering transportation, scholarship funds, and multi-language
	program materials. All programs will align with the principles outlined in
	the LLELA Interpretive Plan, PARD Recreation Program framework,
	LISDOLA program blueprints, and UNT AERI goals. Certification
	opportunities will be developed for students and community volunteers
	to build long-term stewardship and skills.
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	KLB, Master Naturalists
Cost to Partners	\$, \$\$
	Y) YY
Budget & Funding	Grants, Current budget resources and staffing, SPECA
Sources	. 3
Geographic Focus	All areas
\rangle	Online marketing of programs, virtual sessions, interactive websites for
Virtual Focus	data collection and use for instruction within LISD and UNT.
L	l

2025 Status Update

Lewisville has launched Nature on Wheels (NOW) to bring nature-based education into the community and is acquiring a vehicle to expand its reach. COL continues to support Natural Pathways and collaborate with LLELA partners to grow conservation-focused programs that align with regional education and interpretive goals (connection to Item 24 6-12 Connections to Real World Research; LISD and COL are collaborating to identify windows of time LISDOLA can be used for camp, after school and enrichment programs for a fee with revenue sharing opportunities in 2025-2026.

4. Ongoing Collaborations and Partnerships	
Action Item Description	Foster ongoing collaborations between LLELA entities and create additional partnerships to support Green Centerpiece initiatives.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville, LISD, UNT
Desired Outcome	Establish and direct collaborative activities within LLELA involving visitor usage to assure maintenance of a native wilderness environment. Find community partners that support the mission of the Green Centerpiece and can help with funding projects, providing efficient services, communications, labor, etc.
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	All other partners, community and non-profit organizations
Cost to Partners	\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL, Grants, Private
Geographic Focus	All areas
Virtual Focus	Provide partnership information online
Other Comments	Partners can include corporations, vendors, community groups, institutions, etc. PARD is working with KLB and the Elm Fork Texas Master Naturalists to work within LLELA but also other areas of the park system targeted for transition into native plantings, prairieland, etc. Identify vendors/partners to offer kayak tours, rentals, etc.
2025 Status Update	COL executed agreements with KLB, LPA, EFCTMN, and FOLLELA; expanded partnership with UNT; UNT Papered an agreement with FOLLELA; expanded partnership with COL

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Action Items

5. Lewisville Lake and LLELA Operations	
Action Item Description	Continue operations at Lewisville Lake that provide adequate water storage, flood protection, natural habitat and recreational opportunities. Continue operations at LLELA that benefit fish and wildlife and retain the habitat on which these species depend.
Desired Outcome	Active property management to improve and preserve habitat quality and quantity according to LLELA's Comprehensive Management Plan. This involves daily activities such as: conducting prescribed burns, growing and planting native species of extirpated plants, controlling the spread of exotic species with the strategic use of herbicides and other methods, and the reintroduction of extirpated native fauna. Determine the impact of future infrastructural changes on wildlife habitat quality and native biodiversity, such as additional trails, buildings, parking, etc. Results should include: • Improved wildlife habitat, increased native biodiversity, sustainable native wildlife populations • Provision of a source of native biodiversity for future habitat restorations within the north Texas region • Prevention of fragmentation and degradation of wildlife habitat through best practices management policies.
Lead Entity	USACE
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborative Entities	Native Plant Society of Texas, Native Prairies Association of Texas
Cost to Operating Partners	\$\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	
Geographic Focus	Area owned by USACE (Lewisville Lake and LLELA)
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	This Action Item recognizes the existing and on-going USACE operations.
2025 Status Update	USACE has split the management of Lewisville Lake and Lake Ray Roberts; Kenneth Myers has been assigned the role of Lewisville Lake Manager

6. White-tailed Deer Management	
Action Item Description	USACE will conduct whitetail deer population surveys and conduct associated special hunts to manage the whitetail deer herd within the LLELA area. USACE will follow standard TPWD protocol and best management procedures utilizing cameras, spotlight counts, incidental sighting counts, and special managed hunts.
Desired Outcome	A sustainable whitetail deer population with the desired buck to doe ratio and healthy numbers throughout the various age classes.
Lead Entity	USACE - Lewisville Lake Office Staff
Timing	4 - ongoing
Collaborating Entities	USACE partners with TPWD wildlife biologists and Game Wardens for input on management goals and objectives as well as coordination of special hunts.
Cost to Operating Partners	
Budget & Funding Sources	USACE funding
Geographic Focus	Camera surveys are conducted over the entire property while special managed hunts occur east of the river channel.
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	USACE partners with the National Wild Turkey Federation to host an annual event. Fall camera surveys and fall/winter hunts (September - December). Year-round incidental sighting and camera monitoring.
2025 Status Update	First weekend in December has been established as the recurring date for the hunt at LLELA, Ranger Chandler will be POC; Population surveys conducted by USACE and TPWD are ongoing

7. Fisheries Management Project		
Action Item Description	USACE will cooperate with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in order to periodically stock hatchery raised rainbow trout in the outflow on the downstream side of the dam when the appropriate environmental conditions have been met for their safe release.	
Desired Outcome	Creating a desirable cold-water fishery in order to take pressure off of the native species that receive heavy pressure during the warm recreation season.	
Lead Entity	USACE - Lewisville Lake Office Staff	
Timing	4 - Ongoing	
Collaborating Entities	USACE partners with TPWD wildlife biologists and Game Wardens for input on management goals and objectives.	
Cost to Operating Partners		
Budget & Funding Sources	The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department provides the funding and resources for this project.	
Geographic Focus	Stocking occurs in the river channel downstream of the dam in LLELA.	
Virtual Focus	N/A	
Other Comments	This is an ongoing activity that we have been active for many years which provides outdoor recreation opportunities to the public. USACE partners with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to perform this annual event.	
2025 Status Update	No update	

8. Prescribed Burn Management		
Action Item Description	USACE will review and approve the burn plans that are submitted by the University of North Texas to ensure proper management as well as safe and effective controlled burns.	
Desired Outcome	Maintaining and improving the native prairie ecosystem present on about one third of the property through a responsible fire management program.	
Lead Entity	USACE - Lewisville Lake Office Staff	
Timing	4 -Ongoing	
Collaborating Entities	USACE works with the University of North Texas as well as the City of Lewisville in order to safely perform these burns.	
Cost to Operating Partners		
Budget & Funding Sources	Funding is provided by the University of North Texas.	
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece. Typically in the eastern one third of LLELA.	
Virtual Focus	N/A	
Other Comments	This is an ongoing activity that we have actively participated in for many years. Fall through Spring.	
2025 Status Update	Nick Wilson reviewing USACE plans; City of Lewisville staff actively assist in planning and conducting prescribed burns at LLELA, coordinating with partners including the Lewisville Fire Department, reviewing burn plans, and applying best practices learned through regional training. UNT considering development of a class to learn skills and promote certification	

9. Surveillance	
Action Item Description	USACE will cooperate with the City of Lewisville in order to actively monitor and surveil the area.
Desired Outcome	To ensure that the area is only being accessed from designated locations and by individuals who are permitted to enter as well as to ensure that visitors remain safe while on the property.
Lead Entity	USACE - Lewisville Lake Office Staff
Timing	4 – Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	USACE works with the City of Lewisville to monitor LLELA.
Cost to Partners	
Budget & Funding Sources	USACE funding and City of Lewisville funding.
Geographic Focus	The entire property is monitored.
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	This is an ongoing activity that we have been active in for many years which provide security to the public.
2025 Status Update	No update

City of Lewisville (COL) Action Items

10. Green Centerpiece Marketing Plan		
Action Item Description	Market the Green Centerpiece to a wide market through various media	
	channels with a focus on regional and local residents	
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville	
	Promote the Green Centerpiece as a welcoming destination to connect	
Desired Outcome	with nature, enjoy outdoor recreation, gather with family and friends,	
	engage in citizen science, volunteer in community efforts, and participate	
	in guided programs. Ensure information about these opportunities is	
	widely accessible by using a variety of communication formats and	
	languages to reach individuals of all backgrounds and abilities.	
Timing	2 - Short term (1-3 years)	
_		
Collaborating Entities	All other partners	
Cost to Partners	\$	
Budget & Funding	COL	
Sources		
Geographic Focus	All areas	
Virtual Focus	Online components of marketing plan	
	A comprehensive marketing plan is essential to maximize the benefit of	
	the Green Centerpiece and to gain the greatest exposure for the Nature	
	Center. The target audiences and their locations should be explored.	
	Traditional (e.g., print) and non-traditional (e.g., digital/virtual) venues	
	to share information should be explored. A re-designed public website	
Other Comments	for LLELA is currently being developed, with expected launch in 2022.	
	Facebook already is used to great effect, while other social media outlets	
	will be researched after the website launch. Maintaining a presence at	
	special events and coordinating outreach opportunities will also be	
	necessary for awareness. Plan can be developed by PARD, CRT with	
	assistance from UNT (perhaps as a marketing class project), FOLLELA	
2025 Status Update	COL to connect with UNT Professor of Technical Communication; UNT	
	to facilitate connections and assist with development of phased	
	approach for creating a marketing plan to address current state of	
	Green Centerpiece, as well as projects/initiatives on the horizon	

11. Green Centerpiece Activities and Events	
Action Item Description	Create a year-round calendar of activities that draw visitors to the Green Centerpiece
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Events will focus on developing programs and activities that promote eco-friendly tourism and opportunities. Current events will continue, and additional events will be added to expand reach and impact. Future staffing and resource needs should align with the Green Centerpiece marketing plan. Efforts should prioritize connecting people with nature in ways that protect wildlife habitats while offering a wide range of experiences that are welcoming, affordable, and accessible to a broad audience through thoughtfully designed communications and programming.
Timing	Complete, 4- Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	All other partners
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL
Geographic Focus	All areas
Virtual Focus	Online marketing of events & activities
Other Comments	Current events include Christmas at the Cabin, Mariposas, BioBlitz, Run LLELA etc.; Kayak and Canoe based events can be considered with the completion of the kayak launch at FM3040 and the Elm Fork.
2025 Status Update	Lewisville continues to enhance year-round engagement at the Green Centerpiece with new offerings like the LLELA Open House, expanded night programs, and the Nature on Wheels (NOW) mobile outreach. The Friends of LLELA is collaborating with the City, KLB, LPA and CTL on creating yearly calendars that maximize opportunities for participants to stay involved in a variety of ways year- round (ex. service and educational events are staggered so similar events do not conflict).

12. Environmentally-Inspired Public Art	
Action Item Description	Public art in the Green Centerpiece, gateways and key locations throughout Lewisville to place focus on the Green Centerpiece
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Use public art in the Green Centerpiece, at gateways, and other key locations throughout Lewisville to highlight the community's focus on the Green Centerpiece. Ensure the art reflects the people and stories that make up our city, offering a platform for a broad range of artistic voices. Incorporate this action item into the City of Lewisville Public Art Plan to expand access to meaningful art experiences in everyday public spaces.
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	UNT, LISD, FOLLELA
Cost to Partners	\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Grants, Arts Funding
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece
Virtual Focus	Online calls for submissions; potential for virtual media pieces
Other Comments	Consider piece for Nature Center when designed and constructed
2025 Status Update	This action item was integrated into the February 2024 update to the Public Art Plan. LLELA office murals were completed in 2022 and the purchase of <i>Hidden</i> was completed in 2023. Lewisville staff, in partnership with the Arts Advisory Council, continues to pursue funding and grants for future public art installations supporting the Green Centerpiece

13. Residential Native Plan	ting Certification Program
Action Item Description	Develop a program that includes classes that teach plant identification and best practices for native plant residential landscaping.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Educate residents on the differences between native and invasive species, best practices for landscaping, and other region-specific information that will benefit the local eco-region. Participants will gain a sense of connection to the local environment and increase the presence of desirable plant species in Lewisville. Establish a certification and inspection program so residents may modify their yards to include native plants and meet all city codes.
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	UNT, FOLLELA
Cost to Partners	\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Grants, COL
Geographic Focus	City of Lewisville
Virtual Focus	Online marketing of program, may include virtual workshops and certification processes
Other Comments	Incorporate signage in public spaces that feature pollinators and native landscaping that directs residents to learn more about areas and how they can incorporate similar plants into their own yards. Engage partners in the community to assist with development, administration and instruction associated with the program. Potential partners include KLB, EFTMN and NPSOT
2025 Status Update	The City of Lewisville launched the <i>Roots For Wings</i> program to educate residents on native landscaping and support yard conversions. As of 2025, over 100 residents have participated, helping increase native species, strengthen ecological stewardship, and ensure landscapes meet city codes through certification and community engagement. Lewisville will be adding a commercial component to the program in 2026. Friends of LLELA supports the Roots for Wings program with education on and advocacy for native landscapes through its annual January Landscaping Seminar. FollleA offers ongoing support for Roots for Wings participants with educational programming during its quarterly meetings, providing attendees with seasonally appropriate tips and tasks for creating and maintaining their native landscapes.

14. Participant Evaluations	5
Action Item Description	Develop procedure for collecting participant feedback and outcomes to determine effectiveness and satisfaction with visits to LLELA and the Green Centerpiece, as well as engagement in programs and activities.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Conduct participant satisfaction surveys for all programs. Where possible, assess impacts of LLELA programs on participants' understanding of concepts and long-term retention of information. Staff can confirm that educational and recreational programs are meeting teacher and customer expectations while accomplishing LLELA's educational goals. User surveys can be used to collect feedback from visitors and volunteers. Information collected will be used to determine realignment of programming resources, development/modification of programs.
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	LISD, UNT
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Grants, COL
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece
Virtual Focus	Online surveying and channels for feedback
Other Comments	LLELA can potentially partner with Irving ISD, or LISD whose fifth graders and 7th graders that have attended programs from 2010 until 2021. Their testing data over those years might give insight into impact of the LLELA visit on student retention of related information. Carrie Allen in UNT's research and development department may assist with creation of evaluations.
2025 Status Update	Lewisville implemented participant and volunteer surveys to evaluate satisfaction and program impact in 2023. Survey data and cost recovery metrics are reviewed annually to guide program adjustments and ensure alignment with educational goals and community needs. Current and recent survey results indicate a high level of satisfaction with programs and offerings.

15 Hoalthy Infrastructura	Dlan
15. Healthy Infrastructure Plan	
Author Bon date	Create and execute the Healthy Infrastructure Plan to provide
Action Item Description	opportunities for enhancing Lewisville's open spaces, trails, and the
	urban tree canopy.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
	The City with the assistance of UNT and LISD will develop a Healthy
	Infrastructure Master Plan that establishes goals and action steps for
Desired Outcome	creating a thriving community where every resident has access to a
Desired Outcome	quality park or open space, enjoys the benefits of robust urban tree
	canopy, and increases walkable/bikeable access to the places Lewisville
	lives, learns, works and plays.
Timing	Complete; 4- Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	UNT, LISD
Cost to Partners	\$\$
Budget & Funding	Cuanta COI
Sources	Grants, COL
Geographic Focus	City of Lewisville
deographic rocus	City of Lewisvine
Virtual Focus	Online surveys; plan will be posted on playlewisville.com
	Identify and prioritize connections to and within the Green Centerpiece
	that accommodate multi-modal transportation alternatives and expand
Other Comments	technology applications. Natural trails within LLELA and the Green
	Centerpiece will be classified according to the US Forest Service Trail
	Class Matrix. Consider pedestrian and bicycle access to LLELA from south
	and west points of property (access can be monitored).
2025 Status Update	The Healthy Infrastructure Plan was adopted in March 2023 and served
	as basis for Bond 2024, subsequent PARD Strategic Plans. A priority
	need is identified in Goal 2: Raise Awareness & Ignite Learning, Objective
	2.3.2 Identify preferred site, create a design, and seek funding and
	partnerships for a nature center near LLELA. Goal 5: Utilize Nature as a
	Centerpiece includes objectives supporting the GCMS, protecting the
	urban tree canopy, and designing new green spaces to support nature
	and wildlife.

16. COL Sustainability Plan	n – Green Centerpiece Master Strategy Component
Action Item Description	Establish guidelines for how the Green Centerpiece plans to achieve
	goals that create financial, societal, and environmental sustainability.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Put in place regulation and ordinances that support environmental quality and protection of the natural assets located in the Green Centerpiece and beyond (e.g., Native landscaping, noise/light pollution, etc.). Limited resources (such as land, water, energy, clean air, natural assets, and public funds) are used efficiently to provide a thriving natural ecosystem, desirable quality of life, and business climate that today's users and businesses need and want, without reducing Lewisville's ability to provide that same natural ecosystem, quality of life and business climate so future generations of residents and businesses can succeed here too.
Timing	4- Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	UNT, FOLLELA, COL Departments
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL
Geographic Focus	All areas
Virtual Focus	Sustainability Plan and Green Centerpiece Master Strategies online
Other Comments	Combined previous action item to include sustainable principles in City's development code (Green Code). Sustainable design does not significantly increase project capital costs if incorporated from the beginning of the design process, and it can reduce operating and maintenance costs over the life of the facility.
2025 Status Update	Sustainability Manager Position was reclassified as an Urban Forester in 2024 after Sustainability Manager left the City for another opportunity; 2035 Steering Committee recruitment, Sustainability will be integrated into the new Comprehensive Plan (Lewisville 2025) and be managed through a city lens versus a program.

17. Lake Park Master Plan	
Action Item Description	Develop and implement Lake Park Master Plan
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Update Lake Park to be representative of the Green Centerpiece and to provide enhanced recreational amenities. Lake Park should function not only as a gathering location for the community but drive tourism by bringing in quality events and sports activities. Make improvements to day-use area and campground, as well as investments in the marina and fishing barge to meet USACE Outgrant requirements.
Timing	2- Short term (1 – 3 years)
Collaborating Entities	USACE, Private Developer
Cost to Partners	\$\$\$, \$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL, Grants, Private Funding
Geographic Focus	Lake Park
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	COL is currently working to identify private developers to assist with Marina and Fishing Barge redevelopment.
2025 Status Update	Lake Park Master Plan is complete and concept plan approved by USACE in December 2024; New USACE Master Lease DACW63-1-24-0613 starting April 15, 2025 has been executed, sub-concession agreements are being negotiated/executed as of May 2025, Matthew Southwest and SunTex have been identified as developers to assist with marina; City working with Halff on design of Phase 1 Park Improvements, as well as shoreline mitigation in key areas, 2024 Bond approved for Phase 1 and supplemental 4B Bond planned for 2026 or 2027.

18. LLELA Interpretive Plai	n Implementation
Action Item Description	Address the opportunities, concerns, and issues described in the LLELA Interpretive Plan
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Help visitors understand that LLELA is more than a place to enjoy outdoor recreation and is home to significant restoration and preservation efforts. Use a combination of programs and infrastructure to introduce residents and visitors to nature—including how to sustainably immerse themselves within it and protect it both within LLELA and beyond its boundaries. Resources such as signage, educational materials, and programs will be designed to be welcoming and accessible to a broad audience, with attention to clarity, multiple
	formats, and language options to ensure all individuals can engage meaningfully with LLELA's mission and environment.
Timing	4- On-going
Collaborating Entities	All other partners
Cost to Partners	\$, \$\$, \$\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL, Grants
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	Website revision; virtual hikes and programming
Other Comments	Cooperating partners and their staff, volunteers and contractors will refer to the interpretive plan, use it and adapt it as conditions evolve and projects are funded and get underway. The plan provides guidelines for the writers, interpreters, landscape architects, exhibit developers, graphic designers, interactive designers, and exhibit fabricators who are responsible for its implementation.
2025 Status Update	Interpretive and wayfinding signage has been installed across LLELA to enhance the visitor experience. Plant ID markers now highlight pollinator areas in the Green Centerpiece. Website updates were completed in 2023. The next phase will focus on interpretive elements related to the future nature center, continuing progress on the Interpretive Plan.

19. Facilities Maintenance	Program
Action Item Description	Develop a plan and program for maintaining facilities within the Green Centerpiece including the cabin and ancillary buildings
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Topic	Infrastructure
Desired Outcome	A facilities maintenance plan will detail the strategy for proactively maintaining facilities within the Green Centerpiece. An effective maintenance plan will reflect the vision and mission of the Green Centerpiece, include an accurate assessment of existing facilities, incorporate the perspectives of the operating partners, implement accessible features and accommodations, and focus on preventive measures that ensure that capital investment is managed responsibly.
Timing	2- Short term (1 – 3 years)
Collaborating Entities	UNT, FOLLELA
Cost to Partners	\$, \$\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	City of Lewisville, Grants
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	Coordinate with COL Facilities Department to develop and implement plan. The cabin was the most mentioned and highest rate elements at LLELA in the most recent City of Lewisville Citizens Survey. Standard Operating Procedures need to be developed.
2025 Status Update	The City of Lewisville has an SOP to guide annual USACE inspections and facility audits within the Green Centerpiece. Design work is underway or the Log Home and supporting buildings, addressing 2024 assessment findings.

20. Green Centerpiece and	Extending the Green Maintenance Program
Action Item Description	Establish a maintenance program for maintaining outdoor recreation areas, urban forests, greenbelts and trail systems in LLELA, Greenbelts and natural areas throughout the parks system.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Within LLELA, the team will focus on well-maintained high traffic and activity-heavy areas west of the river. Maintenance includes routine mowing of roadsides, cleaning up trail heads, and keeping camping areas presentable. Trash cans need regular service to keep animals from scattering litter. The team will be responsible for repair of picnic tables, benches, signs/kiosks, gates, etc. In addition, the crew will support UNT efforts as prescribed by the Restoration Plan. Beyond LLELA, the team will maintain greenbelts and trails in accordance with PARD maintenance standards and greenbelt plans. These efforts will keep areas accessible and functional for all visitors, both present and future.
Timing	4 - On-going
Collaborating Entities	UNT, FOLLELA
Cost to Partners	\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece, Extended Area
Virtual Focus	n/a
Other Comments	A larger maintenance team is required to keep up with higher levels of recreation users and to preserve aesthetically pleasing natural areas, as well as accommodating the additional responsibilities of maintaining the greenbelts. A clean Green Centerpiece and natural spaces throughout Lewisville will set the example for the way the environment is to be respected and cared for. It will deter littering and vandalism and help establish these areas as the place to go for connecting with nature and enjoying ecologically compatible recreation. Growing the current team will include adding positions such as operations supervisor, foreman, park technician, park maintenance worker to assist the crew leader and park technician currently in place.
2025 Status Update	City staff have drafted new SOPs—such as for trail building, pollinator areas, and tree care—and established schedules for routine maintenance. COL collects monthly metrics related to volunteer efforts and work order completions.

Public Infrastructure within the Green Centerpiece
Plan, fund, improve, design, and construct infrastructure to enhance connection to and sustainable use of the Green Centerpiece to include playspaces, trails, personal watercraft facilities, campgrounds, nature center, ancillary facilities, and organic infrastructure.
City of Lewisville
Families with children regularly visit LLELA and the Green Centerpiece for outdoor nature fun and exercise, making use of engaging play spaces, trails, and natural areas. Field experiences and other programs provide meaningful access to recreation and education in nature, fostering deeper connections with the environment for participants of all ages and backgrounds. A comprehensive trail network—anchored by the concept that "All Trails Lead to LLELA"—will connect residents from across Lewisville and neighboring communities to the Green Centerpiece. Enhancements will include the design and construction of an improved kayak launch site at LLELA and along the Trinity River, further supporting the Trinity River Paddling Trail. Additional improvements to the boat launch at Lake Park will be considered to broaden opportunities for nature-based water recreation. The design and construction of a Nature Center will serve as a hub for environmental learning and exploration, welcoming students, residents, and visitors to discover the natural systems within the Green Centerpiece. The center will be thoughtfully designed to support a range of educational and recreational programming, with accessible features and spaces that invite people of all abilities to participate fully. Investments will continue in the tree canopy and native plants across the Green Centerpiece and throughout the city, guided by the Healthy Infrastructure Plan, ecological restoration plans, and greenbelt strategies. Campground and ancillary facility improvements will be considered to support a welcoming and enjoyable outdoor experience for all.
2 – Short-term (1-3 years)
LISD, UNT, FOLLELA
\$\$\$
COL, Grants, Private

Geographic Focus	LLELA, Trinity River
Virtual Focus	Website presence, online marketing, social media and virtual tours
	Creating nature play areas is a growing movement, and there are many resources for designing and implementing these spaces. Recreation spaces should be located close to the Nature/Visitor Center or near large parking areas such as the group campground and pavilion.
Other Comments	Continue to partner with Trinity River Coalition for kayak and canoe programs/opportunities. Trees must be seen as infrastructure.
2025 Status Update	The City of Lewisville has launched design efforts for kayak launch and log home improvements. An Urban Forester was added in 2024 to guide tree management planning for the City, including the Green Centerpiece, supporting sustainable infrastructure and enhanced public access to nature. COL has held design charrettes for the future nature center and performed a business analysis on future budgets to consider. A Request for Qualifications is being finalized to seek concept designs from qualified firms to aid in making the selection of a final design to propose for design work. Other projects include Hebron Parkway and DCTA Southern Extension Trail, Bond 2024 – Lake Park, Future trails at Bob Hope's Nose (Duwe Tracts)

22. Land Acquisition and D	Development in the Green Centerpiece and Extended Areas
·	Purchase, design and develop property in and beyond the Green
Action Item Description	Centerpiece to preserve the area's ecosystems.
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
Desired Outcome	Ensure as many parcels of land within the Green Centerpiece and throughout Lewisville are preserved for recreation, conservation, and
	land banking, with a focus on safeguarding spaces that offer long-term environmental resilience and expand opportunities for outdoor connection and activity in areas that have historically lacked such access.
Timing	4 – Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	
Cost to Partners	\$\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	COL, Private, Grants
Geographic Focus	Central Area, Extended Area
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	Note: East Hill Park, Spillway Park and other properties such as the Duwe properties, undeveloped portions of Railroad Park will be developed in a manner that enhances the natural landscape and resources of the Green Centerpiece while providing meaningful and engaging outdoor recreation experiences for visitors
2025 Status Update	Dedicated property south of FedEx as Bennett Nature Park in 2022; City staff visited Duwe properties and Bennett Nature Park to assess preservation opportunities. These site visits support ongoing efforts to secure and conserve key parcels within the Green Centerpiece for future recreation, land banking, and long-term ecological preservation. Working with landowners adjacent to COL owned properties to encourage development consistent with GCMS. Exploring purchase of additional parcels and partnerships when opportunities arise.

Action Item Description	Identify desirable recreational use for closed landfills
Action item Description	identity desirable recreational use for closed landfills
Lead Entity	City of Lewisville
	Work with landfill owners to develop closure plans that create an
Desired Outcome	environmentally desirable site and aesthetically pleasing recreational
	use; Create recreational opportunities in a previously unusable green
	space will prevent urban blight and other nefarious activities that
	threaten the safety and well-being of nearby neighborhoods and
	businesses.
Timing	3 - Mid-term (4 – 9 years)
Collaborating Entities	KLB
Cost to Partners	\$\$\$
Budget & Funding	Private, Grants
Sources	
Geographic Focus	Landfills within the Green Centerpiece
Virtual Focus	N/A
	Discussions with Waste Management are underway to determine
	possibilities for incorporating nature-based redevelopment
Other Comments	opportunities to the site once closed. Trail easements providing access
	around landfills through the Green Centerpiece and to the Trinity River
	have been secured at Lewisville, Camelot and WM landfills.
2025 Status Update	No status update, City is still waiting on word from Waste Management
	on the closure date its landfill.

Lewisville Independent School District (LISD) Action Items

24. 6 – 12 Connections to	Peal World Pecarch
24. 6 – 12 CONNECTIONS TO	
Action Item Description	Connect secondary students with environmental research being conducted at LLELA, UNT and within the City of Lewisville.
Desired Outcome	Engage young people with opportunities so they can see themselves as scientists, connect with university faculty and students, and consider a career in the sciences.
Lead Entity	LISD, UNT
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	City of Lewisville, FOLELLA
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Current budget resources, future grant funding
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	Virtual guest speakers, class discussions
Other Comments	Developed during the 23-24 school year, Natural Pathways provides service-learning opportunities to engage secondary students onsite at LLELA with environmental learning sessions followed by activities that directly support the conservation and restoration mission at LLELA. Students report that the most meaningful reason they participate is because they know they are making a real difference within our natural spaces.
2025 Status Update	Between August 2024 and March 2025, 44 new high school and 30 new UNT students participated in Natural Pathways. They have completed 326 hours of service learning. Program continues to be led by a volunteer coordinator in collaboration with UNT/LLELA/LISD. Next steps include building further connections to UNT research and expanding participation within LISD channels including TECC-W, Ag Pathways, HS science and service organizations. Opportunities also remain open for participants from other school districts.

25. K – 5 Natural Science Mentorship Program	
Action Item Description	Supplement existing elementary afterschool programs to provide mentors for students in the natural sciences and ecological fields.
Desired Outcome	Produce ecological stewards for life through mentoring to ensure all students have access to nature-oriented enrichment activities in a safe, structured environment built into existing afterschool programing
Lead Entity	LISD
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	Friends of LLELA
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Existing budget, volunteer engagement
Geographic Focus	LISD campuses within City of Lewisville and/or that represent underserved populations
Virtual Focus	Virtual "Ask a Naturalist" or similar opportunities
Other Comments	Existing programs could include, for example, Extended School Day.
2025 Status Update	Relationships have been established with LISD Extended School Day (ESD) administrators during the spring 2025 semester. Next steps include designating point persons within the ESD, Friends of LLELA, City of Lewisville and LISD (LISDOLA) to collaborate and draft planning documents.

University of North Texas (UNT) Action Items

Support ongoing University of North Texas mentored undergraduate and graduate student research activities at LLELA. Increase the number of students utilizing LLELA for research opportunities. Hands on research activities involved in conservation, biodiversity, and ecological restoration through volunteer programs, ecology degree program College of Education, Public Administration, Summer internships Collaborating Entities Cost to Partners	26. Student Research Acti	
Hands on research activities involved in conservation, biodiversity, and ecological restoration through volunteer programs, ecology degree program College of Education, Public Administration, Summer internships Richard Freiheit and other UNT Faculty members in the Environmental Science and/or Biology Departments. Timing Ongoing and throughout the year Collaborating Entities LISD / City of Lewisville Cost to Partners \$ Budget & Funding Sources ULIED / City of Lewisville Cost to Partners Summer research - Research Experiences for Undergraduates Geographic Focus N/A Other Comments The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.		Support ongoing University of North Texas mentored undergraduate and
Timing Ongoing and throughout the year Collaborating Entities LISD / City of Lewisville Cost to Partners \$ Budget & Funding Sources UNT / AERI and Faculty funding sources (federal, state, Foundation, private) Summer research - Research Experiences for Undergraduates Geographic Focus LLELA Virtual Focus N/A Other Comments The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. 2025 Status Update There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Desired Outcome	Hands on research activities involved in conservation, biodiversity, and ecological restoration through volunteer programs, ecology degree program,
Cost to Partners Budget & Funding Sources Geographic Focus LLELA Virtual Focus Other Comments The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Lead Entity	·
Cost to Partners Budget & Funding Sources Geographic Focus LLELA Virtual Focus Other Comments The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Timing	Ongoing and throughout the year
Budget & Funding Sources Geographic Focus Uirtual Focus Other Comments The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Collaborating Entities	LISD / City of Lewisville
Sources Geographic Focus LLELA Virtual Focus N/A Other Comments The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Cost to Partners	\$
Virtual Focus N/A The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	-	
The increasing diversity of our student population not only helps provide a more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. 2025 Status Update There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Geographic Focus	LLELA
more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which includes and positively impacts all communities. There are multiple UNT classes, active research projects, and volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Virtual Focus	N/A
volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects.	Other Comments	more enriching educational experience for our students but also provides an opportunity for our faculty to conduct more thoughtful research which
building the principal funds in its Advancing Conservation Education fund to create an endowment for sustaining research funding.	2025 Status Update	volunteer/internships opportunities currently going on at LLELA: Active Research projects: Painted Bunting Breeding Ecology Study Kestrel Study Painted Bunting Fecal Study UNT Laboratory course currently visiting LLELA: Ecology Herpetology Ornithology Mammalogy Non-research activities currently occurring at LLELA: Migration banding station Summer M.A.P.S. program Winter sparrow study Volunteering opportunities organized through UNT at LLELA: Twice annual large scale volunteer events Multiple individual student internships paid throughout the year for restoration projects. Friends of LLELA provides some funding for research projects annually and is building the principal funds in its Advancing Conservation Education fund to

27. Native Plant Nursery	
Action Item Description	Continue operation of the LLELA native plant nursery
Desired Outcome	Produce quality native plants for onsite restoration activities. Larger projects include: • LISD 7th grade plan-a-thon - approximately 10,000 plants needed. • UNT Make a Difference Day and Big Event - approximately 2,000 plants per event needed Increase forb quantities relative to grasses being produced. Create a space conducive to both production as well as welcoming to the general public and educational groups.
Lead Entity	UNT
Timing	Ongoing and throughout the year
Collaborating Entities	LISD / City of Lewisville
Cost to Partners	\$\$
Budget & Funding Sources	UNT, FOL, grants (MN, NPSOT)
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	QR code on signage to augment information on signs (see comments) due to probable space restrictions.
Other Comments	 Would like to create signage for the nursery that would: Describe the plants being propagated Habitat description and Root structure Reason for use in restoration Identification and Photos of various growth stages Describe propagation methods Estimated total plant output - 16,000 plants
2025 Status Update	Approximately 7,000 plants were installed at LLELA during the 2024 planting season. All were propagated at the nursery. The target of 10,000 installed plants was missed due to a variety of issues. Volunteer numbers were down, which led to lower than desired production numbers. Additionally, the irrigation system, as it exists, creates dry zones which increased plant mortality. Something seen across multiple users was problems with plant germination and survivability when using Dino Soil. A reconfiguration of the irrigation system is being investigated, and a new, short-term soil source is being utilized. Long term we hope to have wood chips degrade into usable soil in a timely fashion. Piles were started spring of 2025.

28. Coursework for LLELA	Activities
Action Item Description	Generate credit hour-based coursework for research and/or restoration activities being conducted at LLELA (e.g., BIOL 4900, BIOL 5900, etc.)
	Increase student enrollment in credit hours for research and education opportunities at LLELA - College of Science
Desired Outcome	- College of Education Create classes where the designated class location is at LLELA (LLELA classroom or LISD building in the afternoon). Designated onsite use of LLELA by UNT will help AERI to designate LLELA as their Environmental Research Field Station (or some such name). This will open grant opportunities to fund improvements to field stations. These funds could potentially
Lead Entity	contribute to a nature center. UNT (Richard Freiheit and Amie Lund)
Timing	4 - Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	UNT / LISDOLA / LISD
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	UNT Field station upgrade - <u>Infrastructure Capacity for Biological Research</u>
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	Courses need to be created under Richard Freiheit as Faculty.
2025 Status Update	To date, no new classes have been created; timing changed to ongoing. Conversations have been started with the Department of Geography for a joint venture that would create drone classes that could be taught at LLELA and could easily grow into a program that, at a minimum, could give micro credentials and potentially lead up to a certificate or even a minor for a degree. Conversations have started with the training chiefs for both the City of Lewisville and the City of Denton for starting a fire school that could take place at LLELA. Initially this would be once a year but could grow to multiple occurrences annually.

29. Restoration Plan Imple	ementation
	Complete Action Steps described in the LLELA Restoration Plan; create
Action Item Description	opportunities for participation in completion of items
Lead Entity	UNT/City of Lewisville
Topic	Restoration
Desired Outcome	Continue projects that restore natural areas within the Central Area, including prairies, forested and emergent wetlands, and the Trinity River floodway. The Ecological Action Studio will, as an exercise, periodically consider aspects of the restoration plan and offer suggestions for future action or updates.
Timing	Ongoing
Collaborating Entities	COL, FOLLELA, USACE, LISD
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	Grants, COL
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece, LLELA
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	
2025 Status Update	Work is ongoing. Major progress has been made in the McWhorter Creek north (unit #19). Summer burns are planned for Barn Owl Ridge (unit #12) as well as some sections of McWhorter Creek north. The habitat measures for the dam safety modification work is scheduled to begin in the fall on select areas since the modifications are not completed. Chinese privet removal has expanded to unit #10. The roadside restoration from the front gate to the river outlet has started. To date, herbicide of exotic grass has started and will continue throughout the summer of 2025. FOL will order native prairie seed for an anticipated fall seeding. Friends of LLELA is coordinating a collaboration between city and UNT staff, Natural Pathways students, and Texas Master Gardener volunteers to restore the pollinator garden at the Cicada Pavilion with funding from a Native Plant Society of Texas grant.

Action Item Description	Support and promote 7th grade fall activities at LLELA
Desired Outcome	 Lead activities that will: Engage every 7th grade student in LISD with conservation practices at LLELA Plant an estimated 10,000 plants Provide volunteer opportunities for UNT students to assist with planting. Possible collaboration with the School of Education at UNT for source of volunteers and/or research with LISD's approval Provide adequate volunteers to support portions of the program beyond planting to enhance the overall experience for the LISD students.
Lead Entity	UNT/LISD/City of Lewisville
Timing	Ongoing, Event occurs during fall visitation.
Collaborating Entities	UNT/LISD/City of Lewisville/FOL
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	UNT/LISD/FOL Grants
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	Provide before and after photos/video for the community and LISD participants
Other Comments	Working with Carrie Allen to pinpoint possible research and grant options to support activities related to the 7th grade outdoor experience at LLELA for the fall of 2022 and beyond.
2025 Status Update	Onsite activities continue to be a success in supporting both the LLELA restoration plan and student engagement/academic learning. Connections with real world environmental concerns and access to experts in the field are supported through UNT staff and Friends of LLELA / Texas Master Naturalists volunteers. As of spring 2025, over the first 4 years of the plant-a-thon, the program has served approximately 12,700 students, raised just over \$5,000 for the LLELA greenhouse, and resulted in 25,600 native plants installed. Beginning in fall of 2025, LISD will suspend the fundraising portion of the program as historically only 2 campuses participated. Funds will continue to be sourced via grants and the lead partners. Beginning in spring 2026, participating LISD teachers and administrators will be invited to "Prairies"

in Bloom", an event allowing access to the restored areas 7th graders worked in the fall so stakeholders can see the impact of the program firsthand and learn more about prairie restoration through plant and insect ID.

UNT: The 2024 7th grade experience was a great success. A total of 5,937 plants were installed by 2,722 students with approximately 400 students in the district not attending due to cancelations.

The planting area for 2025 will be cleared throughout the summer and early fall. The area will be included in the planned summer burns. In coordination with LISDOLA, planting sights for 2026 and 2027 are being scouted. The planting area of 2024 will be the habitat assessment area in 2025 so that the student can see the results of the previous year's work.

Aerial drone video has been taken over a fixed path throughout the growing season with the hopes of creating some kind of time lapse documentation.

Friends of LLELA (FOLLELA) Action Items

31. FOLLELA Agreement	
Action Item Description	Create and adopt a formal partnership agreement with the Friends of LLELA that builds a flexible framework for the partners to share responsibilities
Lead Entity	Friends of LLELA
Topic	Administrative
Desired Outcome	This agreement will be a clear understanding between the Friends of LLELA and the operating partners. It will outline how the partnership moves forward and will communicate all expectations accepted by the members. The document should describe the scope of work, roles, and responsibilities for those involved.
Timing	Complete
Collaborating Entities	All Partners
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	N/A
Geographic Focus	LLELA
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	N/A
2025 Status Update	Agreements with COL and UNT have been established

32. Non-Partner, Non-Profit Collaborations	
Action Item Description	Develop and maintain collaborations with non-partner nonprofit organizations that support LLELA's mission
Lead Entity	Friends of LLELA
Desired Outcome	These collaborations will outline the relationship between the organizations and the operating partners. including expectations, communication avenues scope of work, roles, and responsibilities for those involved. Consider implementation of the "Be the Change" program.
Timing	1 – 3 years (Short term)
Collaborating Entities	All Partners
Cost to Partners	\$
Budget & Funding Sources	N/A
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece
Virtual Focus	May include virtual workshops and learning opportunities
Other Comments	N/A
2025 Status Update	The Friends of LLELA and the city collaborate with Elm Fork Master Naturalists on projects including the pollinator garden at the animal shelter, privet clearing at Thrive Nature Center, and Extending the Green projects around the city. The Friends of LLELA coordinates with UNT staff to recruit and coordinate volunteers from Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners chapters and the general public to participate in LLELA workdays within the Green Centerpiece. Friends of LLELA works with a long list of nonprofits to provide educational and outreach opportunities at LLELA, including Native Plant Society of Texas, Blackland Prairie Raptor Center, Lights Out Texas, and Texas Parks and Wildlife, to name a few.

33. Outreach and Inclusion	n Program Support
Action Item Description	Identify and work to mitigate barriers for communities that historically
	have not participated in eco-friendly events and programs.
Lead Entity	Friends of LLELA
	All Lewisville residents will have fair access to green spaces and
Desired Outcome	environmental programming as the city creates and the partners activate
	nature parks in vulnerable neighborhoods.
Timing	1 – 3 years (Short term)
Collaborating Entities	All Partners
Cost to Partners	\$, \$\$
Budget & Funding	FOLLELA
Sources	
Geographic Focus	Green Centerpiece
Virtual Focus	N/A
Other Comments	Several small nature parks and natural areas such as large boulevard medians will be developed using appropriate native species design. The initial stages at each of the 13 sites will involve design, invasive removal, and planting. Members will be consulted about design issues and aid Park employees with hands-on work. Parks and Recreation personnel have begun building community relationships in these areas. As the parks are opened the role for master naturalists will change from hands-on to education programs done in partnership with the city of Lewisville. The project gives the chapter an opportunity to get directly involved in the TPWD's efforts to increase diversity within the TMN organization and the larger outdoor recreation community.
2025 Status Update	Friends of LLELA collaborated with Elm Fork Master Naturalist to survey native species during the early stages of the La Gloria Park development and to provide environmental education at PLOW deployments. When the NOW initiative is launched, FollelA will assist in volunteer recruitment, scheduling, and programming. Friends of LLELA provides participant funding support through the Lisa Cole Scholarship and is researching existing initiatives and programs that seek to identify and overcome barriers to accessing nature and environmental education.

On-going Collaborations

Representatives of the Operating Partners will continue to meet regularly to discuss pending projects and to ensure that funding is adequate and that projects are underway. At these meetings, the representatives will identify any outstanding issues and will decide on steps to address them.

Progress on Green Centerpiece implementation should be communicated to the Operating Partners' leadership, visitors and users of the Green Centerpiece and the general public. The status of these projects should be included in the City's annual reports and serve as inspiration for the development of Lewisville 2035 and other master plans. These communications will be important to reach new and diverse audiences and to continue the Green Centerpiece's appeal to its current users.

Appendix

This appendix contains the formal documents showing approval of this updated Master Strategy by the Board of Trustees of the Lewisville Independent School District, the Lewisville City Council and the University of North Texas.

Operational Logos of Operating Partners and Stakeholders







