Durango is a 3-STAR Certified Community!
So what does that mean?

“Recognized for Sustainability Leadership”

The STAR Communities Framework

- STAR Communities is a nonprofit organization
- Clear, data-driven assessment of community sustainability
- Developed for local governments by local governments
- Seven goal areas, 44 objectives, 526 indicators -> Total of 720 points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL AREA</th>
<th>PURPOSE &amp; INTENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Built Environment</td>
<td>Achieve livability, choice, and access for all where people live, work, and play</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climate &amp; Energy</td>
<td>Reduce climate impacts through adaptation and mitigation efforts and increase resource efficiency</td>
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<td>Education, Arts &amp; Community</td>
<td>Empower vibrant, educated, connected, and diverse communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economy &amp; Jobs</td>
<td>Create equitably shared prosperity and access to quality jobs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equity &amp; Empowerment</td>
<td>Ensure equity, inclusion, and access to opportunity for all citizens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Safety</td>
<td>Strengthen communities to be healthy, resilient and safe places for residents and businesses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Systems</td>
<td>Protect and restore the natural resource base upon which life depends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation and Process</td>
<td>Bonus points for innovation</td>
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</table>
Durango’s STAR Journey

- Durango accepted in Fall 2015 Leadership Program
- October 6-7 2015 Orientation and Training in DC
- Data collection, internal and external partner engagement

- October 7, 2016 Verification
  - 72.23 points awarded
- August 10, 2016 Submission
  - 206.95 points applied

October 2016
Durango becomes a STAR Reporting Community

- 206.95 points applied for
- 72.23 points awarded (35%)
  - Durango granted extension to re-apply
Durango’s STAR Journey

- Durango accepted in Fall 2015 Leadership Program
- October 6-7, 2015 Orientation and Training in DC
- Data collection, internal and external partner engagement
- August 10, 2016 Submission
  - 206.95 points applied
- June 5, 2017 Re-submission
  - 303.2 points applied
- October 7, 2016 Verification
  - 72.23 points awarded
- August 10, 2016 Submission
  - 206.95 points applied
- June 29, 2017 Verification
  - 275.9 points awarded

July 2017

Durango awarded 3-STAR Communities Rating

- 303.2 points applied for
- 275.9 points awarded (91%)
How did we do?

Built Environment
Climate & Energy
Education, Arts & Community
Economy & Jobs
Equity & Empowerment
Health & Safety
Natural Systems
Innovation and Process credits

% Points Awarded

Comparison to other Colorado Communities

- Durango: 275.8 points, 3-STAR
- Fort Collins: 332.1 points, 3-STAR
- Steamboat Springs: 446 points, 4-STAR

400 points for 4-STAR
200 points for 3-STAR
Built Environment

- 56.9 points out of a possible 100
- Scored higher than Fort Collins and similar to Steamboat Springs on most objectives
  - Access to high quality parkland and open space: 56.7 acres per 1,000 residents
  - Water quality
  - 100% residents within 3-miles of an off-road trail
  - Excellent access to transit
  - Lack of data on infill and redevelopment, ambient noise and light
  - Housing affordability
  - Capacity for regional collaboration

- Transportation Choices
- Public Spaces
- Infill & Redevelopment
- Housing Affordability
- Compact & Complete Communities
- Community Water Systems
- Ambient Noise & Light

Bar graphs comparing Steamboat Springs, Fort Collins, and Durango on various criteria.
Climate & Energy

- 28.7 points out of a possible 100
- Poor overall performance compared to both Fort Collins and Steamboat Springs
- Reduced energy use in public facilities
- Adoption of SAP
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Recycling programs and education
- Lack of action on Climate Adaptation
- Lack of data on community building stock energy efficiency
- Lack of information related to Industrial Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Durango</th>
<th>Fort Collins</th>
<th>Steamboat Springs</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Waste Minimization</td>
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<td>Resource Efficient Public Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Resource Efficient Buildings</td>
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<td>Industrial Sector Resource Efficiency</td>
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Education, Arts & Community

- 24 points out of a possible 70
- Similar to Fort Collins on some objectives, fewer points than Steamboat across the board

- Creative industries in Comp Plan
- Local collaboration and Block Grant
- Youth engagement programs
- Increasing graduation rates
- Historic preservation ordinance/zoning
- Lack of survey data on community cohesion / arts and culture participation
- More information needed from 9-R
- Assessment of social and cultural diversity
Economy & Jobs

- 51.6 points out of a possible 100
- Relatively strong performance overall with exception of Quality Jobs and Living Wages / Workforce Readiness
- Increased number of businesses – over 1,200 new business established from 2013-2015
- Reduced unemployment
- BID
- Community Green Power Purchase
- Local investment
- No increase in median income
- High % of people earn below living wage
- Lack of Community GHG inventory
- No local workforce development plan
Equity & Empowerment

- 25.8 points out of a possible 100
- Mixed performance

- Equitable reduction in poverty
- Food tax rebate and Utility refund
- Citizen volunteer opportunities
- No dedicated poverty reduction plan
- Lack of environmental justice assessment
- Lack of data on equitable access to key services
- Lack of equity plan
- Lack of information on needs of priority populations

Health & Safety

- 49.3 out of a possible 100 points
- Strong performance across the board with exception of Safe Communities and Natural & Human Hazards

- 88% of residents report physical activity in the last month
- Way to Go! Club incentive program
- Bicycle-friendly community
- Multimodal programs
- Good access to health care
- Superior fire protection (ISO rating)
- Lack of data on Indoor Air Quality
- Lack of information on community resilience
- Violent crime rates over thresholds
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Natural Systems

- 29.5 out of a possible 100 points
- Perfect score on Outdoor Air Quality; otherwise fairly poor across the board
- Native plant ordinance
- Public education around invasive species
- POST master plan and Community Forestry Management Plan
- Natural land preservation
- In attainment for measured criteria pollutants
- Lack of information and local partnership on green infrastructure
- Lack of data on hydrological integrity
- Little working land within jurisdiction – no credit
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Exemplary Performance

- 12% of adults report no leisure-time physical activity, well below 21% threshold for points
- La Plata County in top 10% nationally and performing better than Colorado Average (14%)
Innovation and Process

- 10 out of a possible 50 points
- Fort Collins did not apply; Steamboat Springs achieved 33 points

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Local Innovation

- Way to Go! and Way to Go! Together programs
- Incentivizing local people to commute to work sustainably
- 847 active members
- 96,091 trips and 1,232,581 miles logged
- 568 tons CO₂ emissions avoided

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What next?

- Community Engagement
- More in-depth gap analysis
- Many objectives could be pursued with more data
- Priority setting
- Tie in with SAP goals and strengthen local metrics
- Designation is valid for four years
- Reapply using 2.0 framework for 4-STAR