



Sustainability...

A Texas Local Government Perspective

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Gresham, Smith and
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Agenda

- History of Texas initiatives
- Innovative Programs/Approaches
- Local governments to Watch



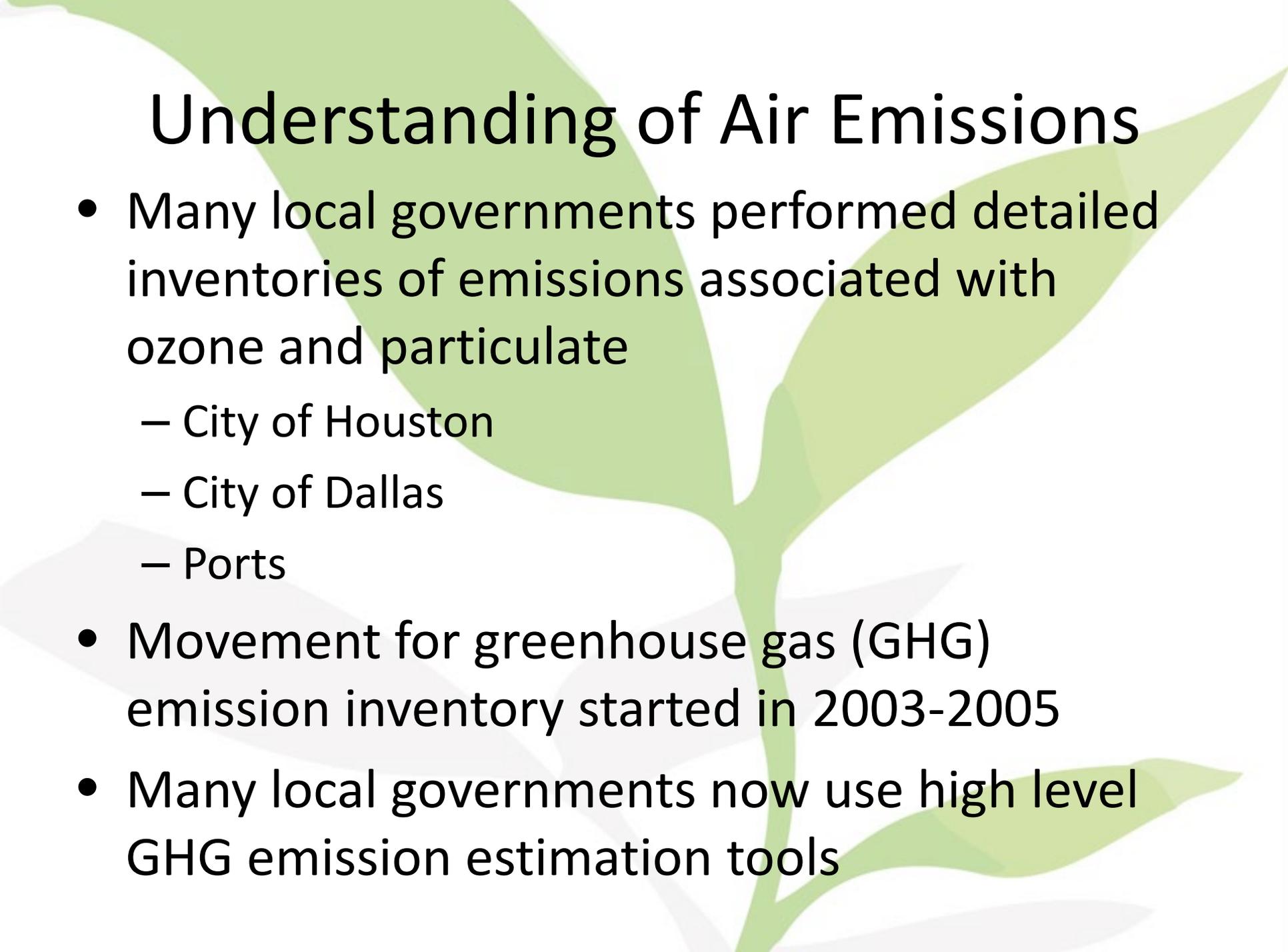


History

- Local governments in Texas have been proactively addressing environmental issues for decades
 - Avoiding non-attainment issues by early partnerships
 - Storm water treatment concerns and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) lead to innovative storm water improvement programs to minimize pollution at the source
- Water supply and conservation programs have been a key program in North Texas cities (1950's drought)

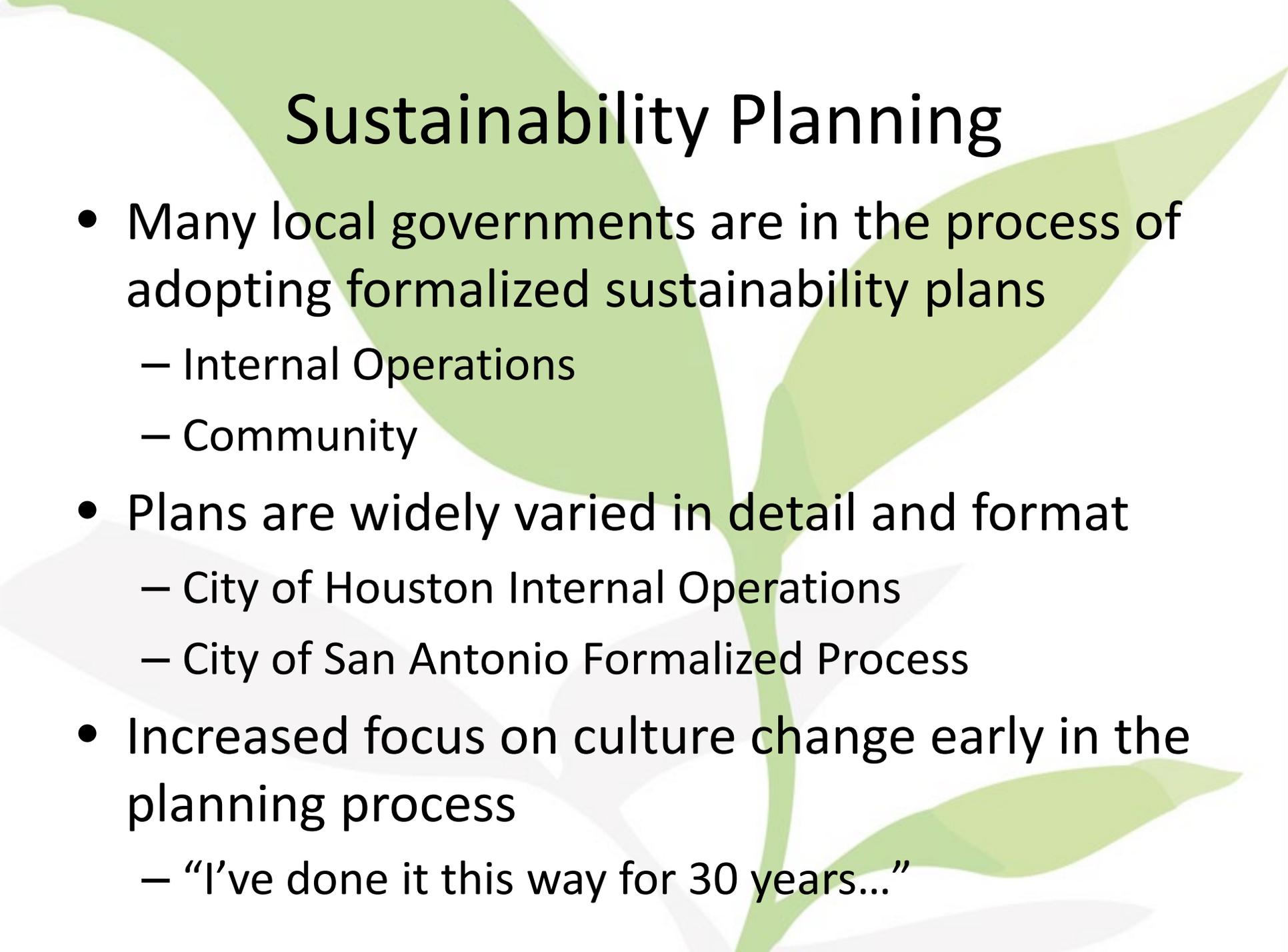
Driver = FEAR!!!

Understanding of Air Emissions



- Many local governments performed detailed inventories of emissions associated with ozone and particulate
 - City of Houston
 - City of Dallas
 - Ports
- Movement for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventory started in 2003-2005
- Many local governments now use high level GHG emission estimation tools

Sustainability Planning

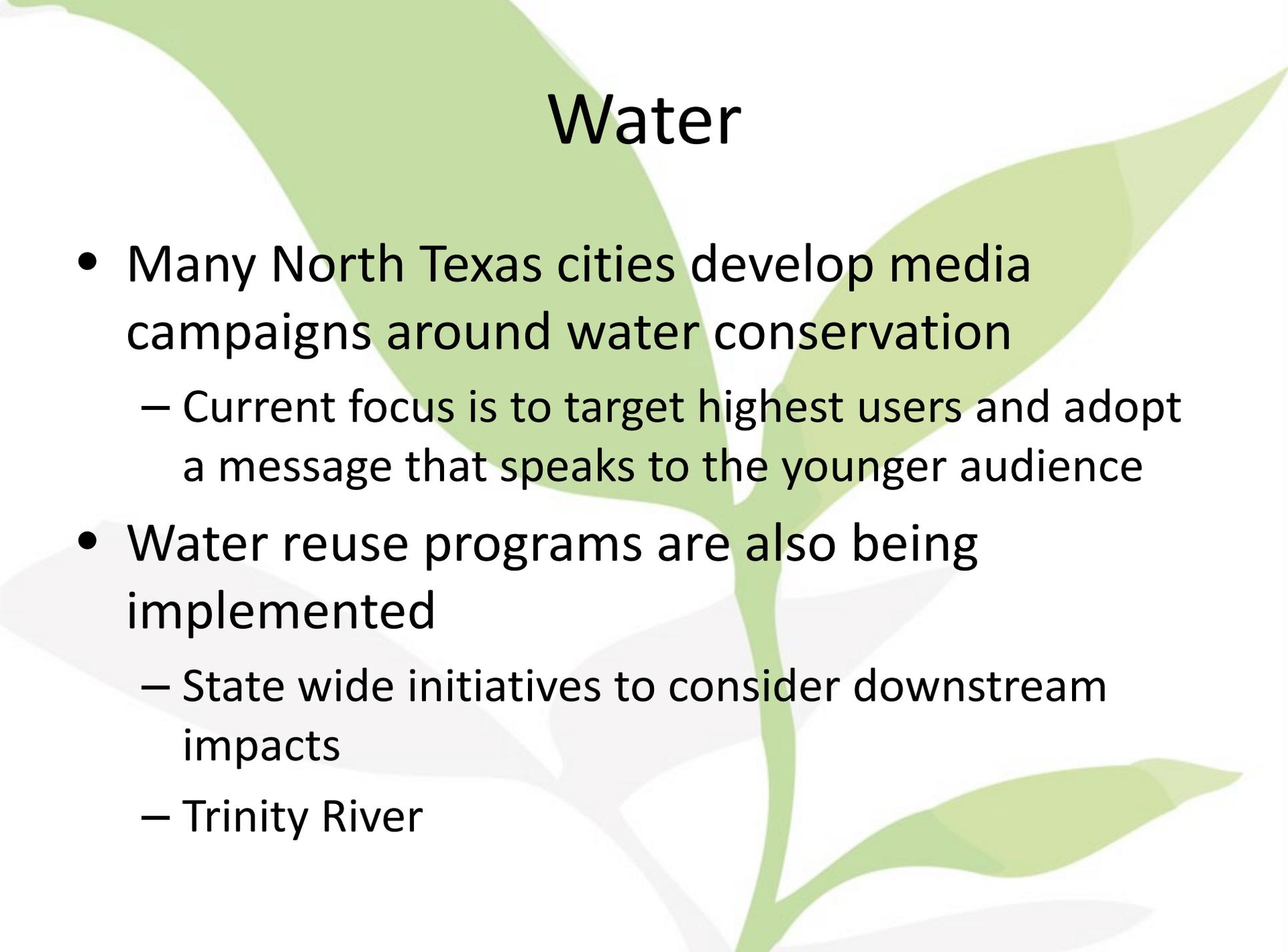


- Many local governments are in the process of adopting formalized sustainability plans
 - Internal Operations
 - Community
- Plans are widely varied in detail and format
 - City of Houston Internal Operations
 - City of San Antonio Formalized Process
- Increased focus on culture change early in the planning process
 - “I’ve done it this way for 30 years...”

Use of Management Systems to Drive Sustainability Programs

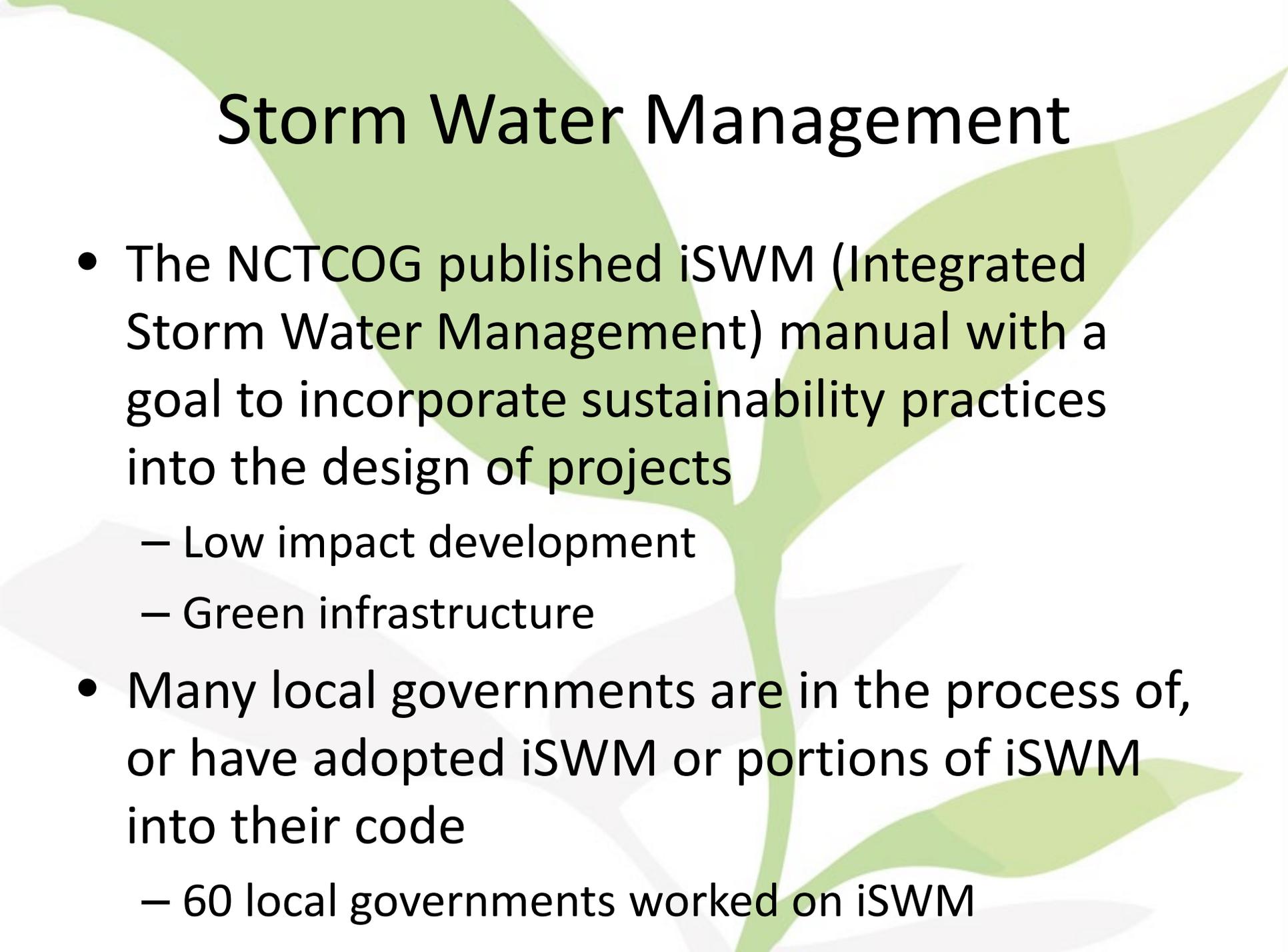
- Environmental management systems (EMS) have been adopted by many local governments in Texas to improve compliance and continually improve environmental impacts
 - Port of Corpus Christi/Port of Houston/Port of Freeport
 - City of Dallas/City of Coppell/City of Garland
 - Northwoods University
- Now either using or evaluating the use of the EMS to manage Sustainability

Water



- Many North Texas cities develop media campaigns around water conservation
 - Current focus is to target highest users and adopt a message that speaks to the younger audience
- Water reuse programs are also being implemented
 - State wide initiatives to consider downstream impacts
 - Trinity River

Storm Water Management



- The NCTCOG published iSWM (Integrated Storm Water Management) manual with a goal to incorporate sustainability practices into the design of projects
 - Low impact development
 - Green infrastructure
- Many local governments are in the process of, or have adopted iSWM or portions of iSWM into their code
 - 60 local governments worked on iSWM

Green Cement



- Purchasing policy in North Texas designed to provide incentives for nearby cement kilns to reduce emissions
- Adopted by many municipalities in 2007 and 2008
- Recently, one cement kiln announced plans to permanently close their highest emitting kilns

Green Buildings

- Many local governments adopted internal policies to build green buildings
- Based on results, ordinances were promulgated by some to require new construction green buildings in the private sector
 - Others provided incentives to build green
- Future to focus on existing building stock
- Dallas Homeless Shelter, Labron Home, Radio Shack Riverside Campus, Dallas Convention Center, Audubon Center at the Trinity River

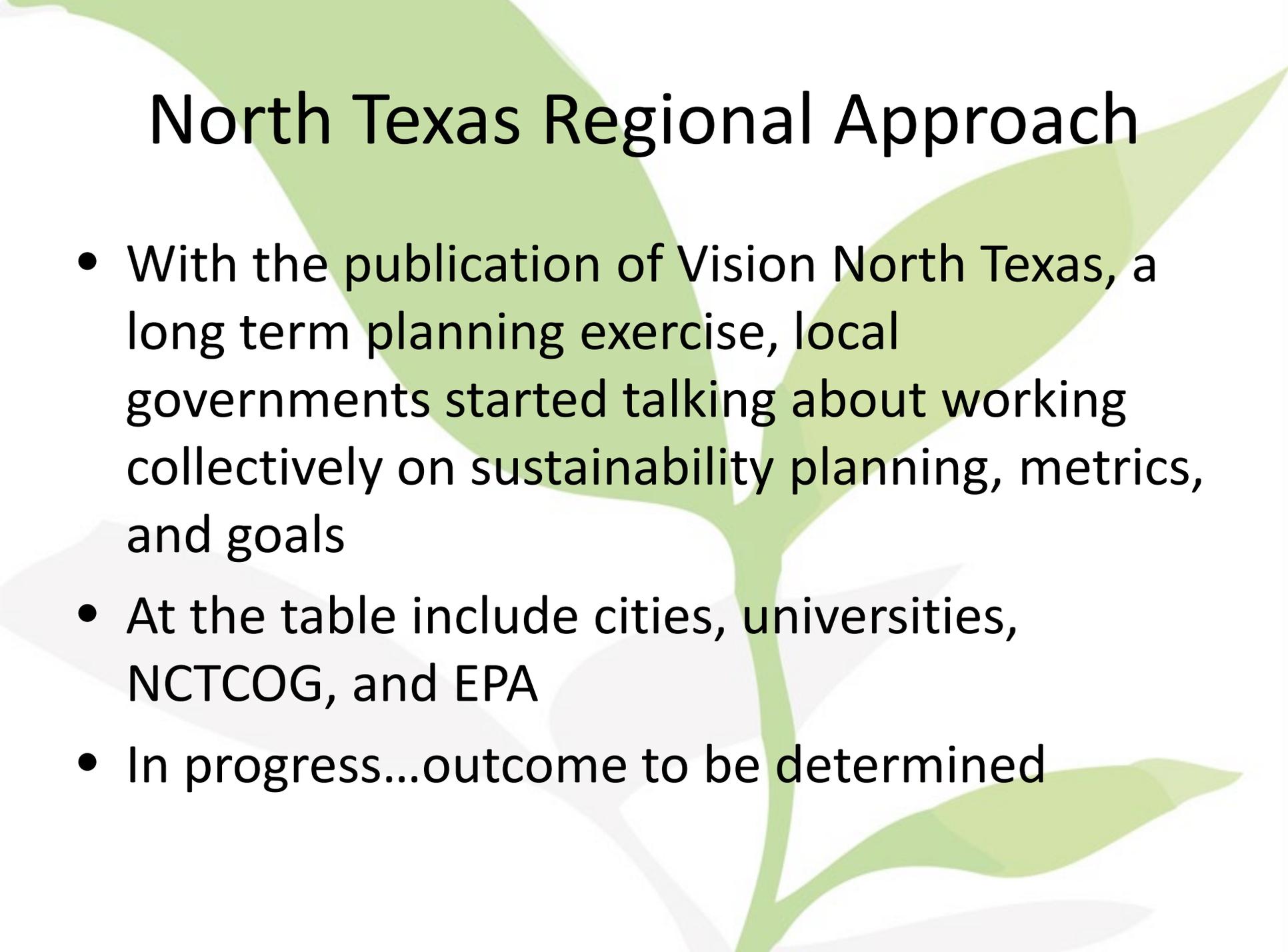
Texas Clear Air Cities Coalition (TCACC)

- Coalition of municipalities, school districts, and other local jurisdictions concerned over the construction of 18 coal fired power plants in Texas (35 members)
- Mayor(s) of Dallas and Houston started Coalition to actively participate in the permitting process
- Following the initial hearing, many of the permit applications were withdrawn

Energy

- Local government 5% mandatory reduction goal in place in Texas for over 5 years
 - Difficulty in getting the word out and associated requirements
- Energy performance contracting is becoming a popular approach to achieve energy goals
- Local governments purchasing renewables
 - Houston and Dallas top purchases in the NATION
- Last legislative session numerous energy bills were proposed and supported state wide

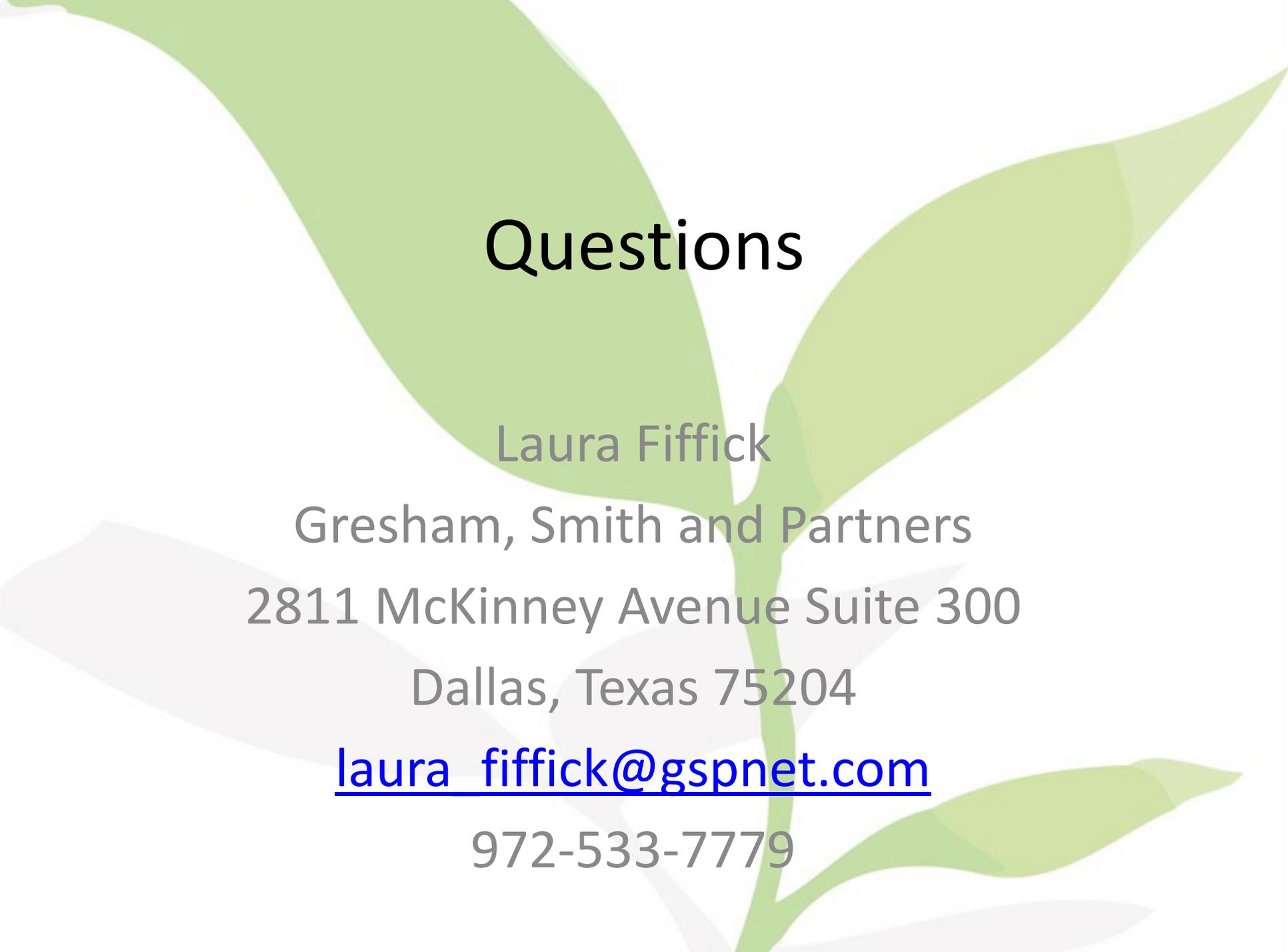
North Texas Regional Approach



- With the publication of Vision North Texas, a long term planning exercise, local governments started talking about working collectively on sustainability planning, metrics, and goals
- At the table include cities, universities, NCTCOG, and EPA
- In progress...outcome to be determined

Local Governments to Watch

| Cities | Other | Universities |
|-------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Dallas | Port of Corpus Christi | UNT |
| Houston | Port of Houston | UTA |
| McKinney | Port of Freeport | Texas A&M |
| Denton | McKinney ISD | SMU |
| El Paso | Austin ISD | Rice |
| San Antonio | | Baylor |
| Austin | | |



Questions

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